

# GAZETTEER OF INDIA

ORISSA

BALESHWAR



सत्यमेव जयते

# ORISSA DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



**BALESHWAR**



*By*

**SHRI NRUSINHA CHARAN BEHURIA, I.A.S. (Retd ),**

*Chief Editor*

सत्यमेव जयते

GAZETTEERS UNIT  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE  
GOVERNMENT OF ORISSA



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## PREFACE

The first District Gazetteer of Baleshwar (old spelling was Balasore) was written by L.S.S.O.' Malley and published in 1907. Since then, significant political, social and economic changes have taken place in the country. In the context of far-reaching changes, the general scheme and contents of the present series of district gazetteers have been adapted to the needs of the altered conditions. Hence, the present series of district gazetteers are not mere revisions of old gazetteers but a comprehensive account on various aspects of the district.

Historically, strategically and culturally Baleshwar is one of the most important districts of Orissa. In fact, till the British occupation of Baleshwar in 1803 it was the cockpit of Orissa. Innumerable traces of forts and military strongholds available from post-Gupta period to the 19th century A.D., testify the military significance of this border district.

Its proximity to the presidency of Bengal, facility of communication through the Orissa coast canal since 1886, the establishment of modern press, publication of Baleshwar Sambad Bahika as early as 1868, the initiation of modern education, etc., aided the growth of consciousness in a more conspicuous manner. The role of Fakir Mohan Senapati, Radhanath Rai and their compatriots for development of Oriya literature, for reformatory movement of Oriya literature, and for cultural resurgence, and the institution of National Society in 1878 and subsequent establishment of Baleshwar Town Hall paved the way for a wider awakening in the general syndrome of Indian era of movement for independence. Baleshwar also joined from the beginning in the Oriya movement for unification of all the Oriya-speaking territories under one administration. The impact of the philosophy of violence for independence movement had had its manifestative results in Baleshwar during the period of the First World War and the role of Jatin (Bagha) became an episode of all India fame.

By the time of Gandhiji's Civil Disobedience Movement, Baleshwar was in the forefront of disobedience movement against the British Raj. The historic Salt Satyagraha at Inchudi earned for Orissa a national fame. The most distinctive feature of Baleshwar's role in the national movement was the active participation of the common men and women in great numbers irrespective of caste and creed. It is this remarkable phenomenon which accounts for the episode of Eram where during the crucial days of the Quit India movement the tragedy of the nature of Jallianawallabagh was enacted, killing the largest number of men at any single place in any single repressive measure in the whole of India. Eram stands as a testimony to the spirit of national struggle which the common people of the district had developed through the final phase of the Gandhian movement.

While Baleshwar entered the final phase of the freedom struggle, a revolutionary upsurge in the princely state of Nilagiri for elementary civil rights for the down-trodden people gave a signal for the movement all over the Garhjats and drew the attention of national leadership as a crucial feature of the liberation movement. It began the process of integration of the feudatory states with the Union Government of India in which Orissa, particularly Baleshwar, led the way for others in India.

Baleshwar, the cradle of Orissan renaissance, is not only rich in legacies of the modern period but also abounds in archaeological remains of the ancient period. Though a systematic exploration is yet a desideratum, the inscriptions, coins and other antiquities discovered so far throw considerable light on the political history, artistic achievements and cultural life of the people through centuries.

The district until recently had the distinction of having been called the 'Granary of Orissa' with stretches of green paddy fields, a network of rivers, blue hills, extensive meadows and an exciting beach. The sight of green expanse of paddy fields with patches of hamlets thickly shaded with trees has its serene appeal to the eye of an visitor. A popular health resort Chandipur on the billowing bay displays a unique aspect; the sea-water recedes kilometres away just to stage a come back after an interval. Presently, it has attracted the attention of the whole world for the successful experimentations of test ranges, such as, Agni, Prithivi, Akash, etc. The administrative headquarters, Baleshwar, is the principal town with remains of antiquarian interest. It was also "a great sea-town", as it is called in Bruton's account, "where to much shipping belonged and many ships and other vessels built". According to V. Ball, a famous Geologist, Baleshwar was probably the first place where modern Indian method of manufacturing iron was practised. Bhadrak is the chief commercial town of the district and famous for goddess Bhadrakali. The temple of Sainthia which contains a strip of the bedding of Sri Chaitanya is a relic of great sanctity for the Vaishnavities. At Paliabindha is a temple dedicated to Lord Biranchinarayan which indicates the efflorescence of Sun worship in this area. Chandbali and Dhamara were the important ports of Orissa. Pipili was once the important port on the Orissa coast and contained settlements of Portuguese and Dutch. Historically, Jaleshwar is one of the most interesting places in the district with the remains of a large fortress. Poet Dinakrushna Das lived here about three hundred and a half century back. Near the village Tukaroi in 1575 A.D., occurred the great battle of Mughalmari. Raibania is famous for the ruins of an important old fort which protects Orissa from several foreign invasions. Gohiratikiri in Dhamnagar police-station saw the tragic fall of the last independent Hindu king, Mukundadeva, being murdered in the battle field by his treacherous generals and Orissa finally passed into the hands of the Muslim rulers of Bengal in 1568 A.D. At Kaupur, there is a hot spring called Debarkund which is regarded as sacred. Kuldiha is a famous hunting ground high above the hills amidst the reserved forest. Nilagiri is famous for the manufacture of stonewares and utensils. Remuna is famous for Krishna worship. Chandaneswar and Aradi are famous Saivite centres of Orissa. Kupaer, Ayodhya, Solampur, Khadipada, Kasba, Jayarampur and Abhana are the places of interest where distinct traces of Buddhism are still observable. Charampa, Pundal, Baleshwar town, Bhimpur and Jaleshwar were the important Jaina centres of the district. So, the stream of main Indian religions, such as, Hinduism, Buddhism, Saivism, Saktism and Vaishnavism flourished in this part of Orissa since early days.

The contribution of Baleshwar towards the growth and sustenance of Oriya language and literature is immense. In the mid-nineteenth century, when systematic efforts were worked out by some Bengalis to abolish the Oriya language altogether, the people of Baleshwar under the leadership of Fakir Mohan Senapati and with the august compassion of John Beames, the then Collector of Baleshwar, fought for preserving the identity of Oriya language. Fakir Mohan and Radhanath heralded a new age in Oriya

literature and their mighty defence to Oriya language against heavy odds is a story by itself.

In the field of music, dance, drama and theatre, the district has unique contributions. Mughal Tamasa of Bhadrak area is a typical style of farce and satirical play on the decadent and sensuous habits of Mirzas.

In compiling this volume all available references which include various survey and settlement reports, Annual Administrative Reports on the Nilagiri ex-state, Feudatory States of Orissa by L.E.B. Cobden-Ramsay, L.S.S.O' Malley's Balasore District Gazetteer and other old-time records have been made use of.

The drafts of Baleshwar District Gazetteer was approved by the Gazetteers Working Committee consisting of following members :

Member, Board of Revenue, Orissa	..	Chairman
Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Revenue Department, Government of Orissa	..	Member
Chief Editor, Gazetteers, Orissa	..	Member
Dr. Khageswar Mohapatra, Professor in Oriya, Viswa Bharati, West Bengal	..	Member
State Editor, Gazetteers, Orissa	..	Member Secretary

After scrutiny and approval by the Working Committee, the draft chapters were sent to the Gazetteers Advisory Committee for approval. The Gazetteers Advisory Committee comprises the following members :

Chief Secretary, Government of Orissa	..	Chairman
Member, Board of Revenue, Orissa	..	Member
Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Orissa	..	Member
Additional Development Commissioner, Government of Orissa.	..	Member
Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Revenue Department, Government of Orissa.	..	Member
Chief Editor, Gazetteers, Orissa	..	Member
Dr. Khageswar Mohapatra, Professor of Oriya, Department of Oriya, Viswa Bharati, West Bengal	..	Member
Dr. Karuna Sagar Behera, Professor of History, Department of History, Utkal University, Vani Vihar, Bhubaneswar.	..	Member
Shri Bijay Krushna Mohanty, Director of Mines, Government of Orissa	..	Member
State Editor, Gazetteers, Orissa.	..	Member Secretary

My thanks are due to the Chair-persons and Members of the Working Committee and the Advisory Committee for sparing their valued time to go through the chapters in detail.

To give the readers an idea on the physical aspect of the district and important places a general map prepared by the Directorate of Survey and Map Publications, Orissa, Cuttack, has been given at the end of this volume. In the case of place names the system followed by the Survey of India, New Delhi, and the Director of Land Records and Survey, under Board of Revenue Orissa, Cuttack, has been adopted. The photographs are supplied by different organisations. We are thankful to these organisations. Diacritical marks are given in the glossary only.

We thank the local officers of both Central and State Governments, Heads of Departments; and those non-official persons and organizations who have rendered ungrudging assistance for compilation of this volume. Our thanks are due to Dr. Kishori Mohan Patra, M.A., Ph.D., Professor of History, Utkal University, for writing the Chapter II (History) of this Gazetteer. The Chapter XI (Revenue Administration) was written by the Chief Editor, himself. Shri Amulya Kumar Satpathy, who retired as Joint State Editor was in charge of this district gazetteer. The draft chapters of this gazetteer were sent to the press for printing during his tenure of service. Shri Gour Prasad Patnaik, Joint State Editor, Gazetteers, took the pain to go through the entire draft and made proof-corrections at the final stage of printing.

The following staffs of the Revenue (Gazetteers) Department have worked wholeheartedly and ungrudgingly in the preparation and publication of this volume; Shri Amulya Kumar Satpathy, Joint State Editor (Retd.); Shri Basanta Kumar Das, Joint State Editor (Retd.); Shri Gour Prasad Patnaik, Joint State Editor; Shri Prafulla Behera, Oriya Translator; Compilers—Shri Ramakanta Mishra, Shrimati Bijoylaxmi Praharaj, Shrimati Umamoni Senapati, Shri Chittaranjan Das, Shri Bidyadhar Palai, Shri Subodh Chandra Mohapatra and Shri Subrat Kuanr; Shri Sarat Chandra Mohapatra, Section Officer; Shri Rabindra Kumar Swain and Shrimati Gayatri Senapati, Assistants to Oriya Translator; Shri Durga Charan Mohapatra and Shri Braja Kishore Parida, Senior Assistants; Shri Satyananda Mahapatra, Head Typist; Senior Typists—Shri Akshaya Kumar Barik and Shri Haribandhu Ghadei; Junior Typists—Miss Binapani Bose, Shri Pinaki Satpathy and Shri Dwarikanath Maharana; Shri Sudarshan Sahoo, Diarist-cum-Recorder; Shri Laxmidhar Patnaik, Driver, and all the Class IV employees of this office.

Our thanks are also due to the Commissioner-cum-Director, Director (Technical), Deputy Directors, Assistant Directors and the staff of the Orissa Government Press, Cuttack, for extending their help and co-operation in the publication of this volume.

Bhubaneswar,  
the 21st June, 1992.

**NRUSINHA CHARAN BEHURIA**

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## CHAPTER I

### GENERAL

#### INTRODUCTION

#### Origin of the name of the district

Baleshwar, the extreme north-eastern border district of the state of Orissa, is said to be a local derivation of "Baneswar"— Lord Baneswar, the presiding deity of a Siva temple in Puruna Baleshwar. The principal town which is also the administrative headquarters of the district also bears the same name of Baleshwar.

#### Location, general boundaries, total area and population

The district is situated between 20°44' and 21°57' N. latitude and 86°16' and 87°29' E. longitude. It is bounded on the north by the Midnapore district of West Bengal, on the east by the Bay of Bengal, on the south by the district of Cuttack from which it is separated by the river Baitarani and on the west by the districts of Kendujhar and Mayurbhanj.

It extends over an area of about 6308.42\* sq. km. and ranks 13th, the smallest among the districts of Orissa in size. The district consists of a long strip of alluvial land between the hills and the sea and excluding the plains of Nilagiri subdivision, it looks somewhat like an hour-glass in shape, very narrow in the centre, but growing broader towards the north and south. This tract varies in breadth from about 48.30 km. at the north-eastern extremity to a little more than 16.10 km. at the centre and 64.40 km. in the south. The district, thus hemmed in by a surf-beaten coast on one side and a barrier of hills on the other comprises four belts of country extending from north to south in lines roughly parallel to the coast and rising slowly as they recede from it. The first is a narrow maritime strip of land in many places impregnated with salt and unfit for cultivation which has been formed by the silt-laden rivers debouching from the hills and the sand-burdened currents of the bay. The second is the delta proper, an alluvial plain thickly inhabited and covered with great stretches of rice, which constitutes the greater part of the district. The third belt consists of the undulating tract which gradually ascends into the wooded glens and the fourth division consists of the mountainous tract of Nilagiri subdivision. The headquarters town Baleshwar stands almost to the eastern border and is thus far removed from the northern and south-western parts of the district.

The population of the district was 2,252,808 persons as per 1981 Census comprising 1,139,355 males and 1,113,453 females. In terms of population the district ranks sixth in the state. The

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\*Source: Survey of India, S. E. Division, Bhubaneswar.

population of the district is 2,796,321 persons as per the Census of 1991 (provisional) consisting of 1,420,708 males and 1,375,613 females.

### **History of the district as an administrative unit and changes in its parts**

Baleshwar was administered from Cuttack from 1805 to 1821 and had no separate Revenue Officer. A Joint Magistrate was stationed at Baleshwar as the deputy of the Magistrate of Cuttack. In 1827, Baleshwar was constituted an independent Collectorate and in the subsequent year Jajpur and Bhadrak were attached to it. Jajpur was again transferred to Cuttack subsequently. On the north of the district, a perplexing series of transfers and re-transfers of fiscal divisions went on for a long time between Baleshwar and Midnapore, some being transferred backward and forward as many as three times. The district finally acquired a definite dimension in 1870 when the northern boundary was defined and the Baitarani and Dhamra were made its southern limits. The following changes have occurred to the district boundary after 1870.

(1) The area once occupied by the French remained as French territory till 1947. A more elaborate account of this territory is given by D. H. Kingsford in the Final Report of the Provincial Settlement. The area of the lodge was held to be 18.45 hectares (45 acres) by Dalziel in his Final Report on the Revision Settlement of Orissa. This area consisting of a population of 264 persons was released from French possession and annexed to Baleshwar police-station in 1947.

(2) The administration of the ex-state of Nilagiri belonging to the Eastern States Agency was taken over on the 14th November, 1947. It was the first tributary state in the country whose administration was taken over by the Government of Orissa on behalf of the Government of India. It formally merged with Orissa on the 1st January, 1948 and was constituted into a regular subdivision of the district on the 15th December, 1949.

(3) About 37 villages comprising an area of 19.84 sq. km. (12.32 sq. miles) and a population of 5,936 belonging to Olmara police-station and 4 villages of Parganas Narangabad with an area of 1.1 sq. km. (0.68 sq. mile) and a population of 174 constituting part of the district of Mayurbhanj were added to Baleshwar on the 15th December, 1949.

(4) The village Tillo belonging to the district Kendujhar having an area of 7.51 sq. km. was added to the district on the 15th December, 1949 and on the same date a number of villages of Killa Ambo with an area of 9.06 sq. km. was transferred from Baleshwar district to Kendujhar district.

Thereafter, there has been no change in the boundary of the district, though minor changes have occurred in its component parts. Two police-stations namely Sergar and Raibania have been formed by carving out portions from Baleshwar Sadar and Jaleshwar police-stations respectively. In Bhadrak subdivision, Bansada police-station was created by taking out a portion of Chandbali police-station.

### Subdivisions, Tahasils and Police-stations

The district is divided into three subdivisions, ten Tahasils and twenty-eight police-stations. The names of subdivisions, Tahasils and the component police-stations are furnished in the following table.

Subdivision	Tahasil	Police-station
Baleshwar	Jaleshwar	1. Bhograi 2. Jaleshwar 3. Raibania
	Basta	1. Basta 2. Baliapal 3. Singla
	Baleshwar	1. Baleshwar Town 2. Sadar 3. Khantapada *4. Chandipur
	Soro	1. Soro 2. Simulia 3. Khaira
Nilagiri	Nilagiri	1. Nilagiri 2. Berhampur 3. Oupada
Bhadrak	Bhadrak	1. Bhadrak Town 2. Bhadrak (R) 3. Bant
	Basudebpur	1. Basudebpur 2. Naikanidihi
	Tihidi	1. Tihidi
	Chandbali	1. Chandbali 2. Bansada
	Dhamnagar	1. Dhamnagar 2. Bhandaripokhari 3. Dhusuri

Baleshwar subdivision has three Tahasils, viz., Baleshwar, Jaleshwar and Soro till 31.3.1967. On the 1st April, 1967 a fourth Tahasil namely Basta came into being by reconstitution of the three existing Tahasils in Revenue Department notification No. 21080, dt. 24.4.1967.

Until 31st October, 1975 Bhadrak subdivision had three Tahasils, viz., Bhadrak, Chandbali and Dhamnagar. It was divided into four Tahasils namely, Bhadrak, Chandbali, Dhamnagar and Basudebpur with effect from 1st November, 1975 under Revenue Department notification No. II-J-6/76/74568/R., dated the 22nd September, 1975. The new Tahasil Tihidi is added to this subdivision.

Nilagiri subdivision constitutes only one Tahasil of the same name.

As per the Census of 1991 the district has as many as six towns of which two have the status of Municipality and the rest are Notified Area Councils. The area, population and classification of these towns are given in the following table :

Name of the town	Classification	Population	Area in sq. km.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1. Jaleshwar	Notified Area Council (N. A. C.)	16,790	17.6
2. Baleshwar	Municipality	86,116	19.4
3. Soro	N. A. C.	22,726	23.6
4. Bhadrak	Municipality	76,390	31.1
5. Basudebpur	N. A. C.	20,031	..
6. Nilagiri	N. A. C.	12,800	20.4

#### TOPOGRAPHY

The district is a long strip of alluvial land stretching along the seashore from north to south and growing broader towards the latter. It may be broadly divided into three distinct natural divisions (1) Littoral saline tract, (2) Arable alluvial tract and (3) Montane and Sub-montane tract.

(1) Littoral saline tract—This tract runs almost the entire way down the coast and forms a very narrow strip, varying in breadth from 3.22 km. to 9.66 km. and rising at places into sandy ridges about

15.24 to 24.38 metres high. It slopes on either side and is covered with a vegetation of low scrub jungle. Sluggish brackish streams creep along between banks of fetid black mud. The tract is purely alluvial and has a distinctly saline taste. Further inland, the plain which once spread out into prairies of coarse long grass and scrub jungle providing ideal pasture lands for the cattle herds has now been greatly reclaimed by the cultivators, many from outside the state. Today only a few small narrow patches of grass lands lie scattered in this region. It is primarily a fertile alluvial zone and the contiguous inland comprises the major part of the district.

(2) Arable alluvial tract—The arable tract lies beyond the salt lands and embraces the rest of the district but for the whole submontane tract which lies to the west of the district. It is a long dead level of rice fields with a soil light in colour, friable and apt to split up into small cubes with a rectangular cleavage. It is a treeless region except round the villages which are encircled by fine mango, pipal, banyan, bamboo and tamarind trees. A common feature of this tract is the Patas literally the cups or depressed lands near the river banks. These lands bear the finest crops.

(3) Sub-montane tract—The sub-montane tract is an undulating country with a red soil much broken up into ravines along the foot of the hills. Masses of laterite buried in hard ferruginous clay crops up as rocks or slabs. At Kupari in Bhadrak subdivision, about 3.22 km. are almost paved with such slabs, dark red in colour perfectly flat and polished like plates of iron. Black stone and granite quarry also lie in the hills close to Nilagiri. Large tracts are covered with Sal jungles, which nowhere attains any great height. Near the hills there are patches of cultivated lands and the soil is often of great fertility on account of the rich vegetable matter brought down by the mountain torrents.

To the south of Nilagiri, a range of hills which is a part of the Eastern Ghats runs north-west towards Darkhull and then towards south-west and running up to the border of Mayurbhanj and Kendujhar it becomes continuous with the hill ranges of these two districts.

### Hills

All the mountain ranges in the district lie within the Nilagiri subdivision and as stated earlier belong to the Eastern Ghats range of mountains. To the north of the Nilagiri town a few hills rise to a height of more than 304.80 metres. The peaks in those hills that need mention are Machhua Pahad (299.62 m.), Dhobasila Pahad (438.30 m.), and Swarnachuda (544.37 m.). The nature of vegetation is open mixed forests consisting of Sal, Piasal, Asan, Bamboo, etc.

To the south and west of Nilagiri lie a continuous range of hills with open Sal and Bamboo forests. These hills rising from the plains reach a height of 304·80 metres and above. The main peaks are Sunchut Parbat (453·54 m.), Katillia Parbat (494·69 m.), Debigiri Pahad (682·45 m.), Jhanuadi Pahad (626·97 m.), Bamanihuli Pahad (682·45 m.) and Jugjuri Pahad (408·13 m.).

### Sea coast

The district has a coastline of 136·85 km. through which several great rivers make their way to the sea. In spite of the existence of these estuaries and of the extent of its sea face, the district does not contain a single harbour capable of sheltering ships of any great size. In the words of William Hunter "an eternal war goes on between the rivers and the sea, the former struggling to find vent for their columns of water and the latter repelling them with its sand laden currents". These forces counteract each other, and the sea deposits bar outside the river mouth, while the river pushes out its delta to right and left inside. These rivers consequently silt up at the mouth, and though they are generally of sufficient depth each is blocked up by a bar of sand or mud, which prevents the entrance of large sea-going vessels except at tide time. Silt, the common enemy of waterways in Orissa has been fatal to the prosperity of almost every port in the district.

In the year 1871 there were seven ports in the district, Subarnarekha, Saratha, Chanuya, Baleshwar, Laichanpur, Churaman, and the Dhamra including Chandbali. Some of these ports were, however, very insignificant. Saratha and Chanuya were merely demarcated portions of the rivers known by these names, deep slimy and it was most difficult to land owing to the soft muddy banks. Laichanpur, 37·03 km. south of Baleshwar and Churaman 9·66 km. further on, were also parts of two nullahs, the mouths of which were so nearly closed that to steer a small jolly boat into them and out to sea again required careful watching of the tide while they were so completely concealed by a dense fringe of jungle that it was difficult to discover them from the sea. Churaman, was however, once considered the safest and the most convenient port on the coast of Orissa, largely owing to the facilities afforded by the extraordinarily soft and yielding nature of the mud bottom of the river. The rice sloops penetrated as near the coast as high water would allow them to push their way, and the receding tide left the greater part of their hulls resting securely on a soft cushion of mud. It was a well-known fact on the coast that, should there be any doubt as to the possibility of weathering a dangerous storm, the safest plan was to run the ship straight into the bay of Churaman, where the thick half liquid mass of mud in solution counteracted the violence of the winds and waves.

Owing to the silting up of the river mouths, to the construction of the Coast Canal, and the abandonment of the old salt manufacture, many of these ports have now ceased to exist, while the position of others has been changed. A few centuries ago the Subarnarekha was a noble estuary which was admirably suited for a harbour and was consequently one of the first places to attract European mercantile enterprise. Here at the close of the 16th century Portuguese established themselves at Pipili; that harbour was also the rendezvous of the Arakanese pirates; and later the English appear to have made a settlement there. But the Subarnarekha, in spite of its overwhelmingly superior length, the vast area of its catchment basin and volume of discharge, was the first to silt up. By the beginning of the 18th century A.D. the silting up of its mouth had ruined Pipili, and the settlement was abandoned. The place lingered on as a ruined and silt-locked place till the early years of the 19th century, but no trace of it now remains. The Subarnarekha port, once most important in the district is in virtual disuse except that fishing boats still anchor here. The sands stretching across its mouth are almost bare at low water but beyond the bar there is a magnificent deep channel. It is, however, quite unsafe during the south-west monsoon; it presents a deadly shore with breakers right across the mouth.

Further down the coast is the estuary of the Burhabalanga river. The port consisted of a portion of the river fronting the town of Balেশwar and was about 1.2 km. in length. The river goes along a sinuous course till it joins the sea. A project undertaken in 1863 to render the course of the river shorter was later abandoned.

The Dhamra which formed part of the boundary line between Balেশwar and Cuttack is a fine estuary formed by the junction of the Brahmani and the Baitarani rivers.

#### **RIVER SYSTEM AND WATER RESOURCES**

##### **Main rivers and distributaries**

The district is watered by six distinct river systems. Proceeding from north to south, these principal rivers are the Subarnarekha, the Panchpara, the Burhabalanga, the Jamka, the Kansbans and the Baitarani. During the hot weather the upper channels of these rivers dwindle to insignificant streams dotted here and there with stagnant pools but in the rainy season they bring down an enormous mass of water from the hills from which they take their rise. They drain a large area and the rapidity of the current acquired among the mountains sweeps down a vast quantity of silt in suspension. As soon as the river leaves the



broken hilly region for the level delta, its current is checked and being unable to carry down the sand with which it is charged, it deposits it in its bed. By degrees, therefore, the channel becomes shallower, the bed is raised, and the river flows at a level higher than the surrounding country. The rivers and their various channels consequently become less and less able to carry off the water supply to the sea and frequently prove inadequate to furnish an outlet for the volume of water with which they are charged during the rainy season. The result is that though in the cold and hot weathers they are small streams winding through long expanses of sand, in the rains they are formidable torrents which often overflow their banks and flood the country far and wide.

These rivers are scarcely navigable as they dry up during the summer.

The following is a brief description of each of these principal rivers with their most important tributaries and offshoots.

### **Subarnarekha**

The Subarnarekha takes its rise 16·10 km. south-west of Ranchi in the Chota Nagpur plateau. It flows towards the north-east, leaving the main plateau in a picturesque waterfall and then forms the boundary with Hazaribag, its course being eastwards to the trijunction point with the Manbhum district. From this point the river veers southwards into Singhbhum, then passes into the district of Mayurbhanj and enters Midnapore from the north-west. It traverses the jungle in the western part of the district till it reaches Baleshwar, through which [it flows for 96·60 km., in a tortuous southern course with great windings east and west until it finally discharges into the Bay of Bengal, after a course of 536·56 km., during which it drains an area of 29,267 sq. km. The river banks are high and steep on the outer curve of the bends against which the water cuts and flat or sloping on the inner. It has no tributaries within the district except a small stream, the Guchida which joins it at Bhograi and another Khaljori Nala which joins it near Paschimbad. Although studded by islands as old as the oldest map, it has long ceased any operations of diluvion or alluvion on a large scale. The country along the banks is cultivated upto a few kilometres of the sea, where it enters the saline tract. The Subarnarekha is nowhere fordable within the district during the rainy season.

The river carried the early European trade in the province from and to the port of Pipili, which was occupied by the Portuguese at the end of the 16th century. The silting up of the

## GENERAL

mouth of Subarnarekha during the next century led to the decline of the port of which no vestige now remains. The river is still however, navigable by country crafts as far as Kalikapura, about 25·76 km. from its mouth, up to which point it is tidal, 40·25 km. further up it is spanned by the railway bridge and the Orissa Trunk Road at Rajghat. The name Subarnarekha which means a streak of gold is said to be derived from the fertility of the land on either bank. Others, however, trace the origin of the name to the particles of gold occasionally found in its sandy bed.

### Haskura

It rises as a stream in the hills of Mayurbhanj and flowing across the bridge on the old Grand Trunk Road, below Rajghat passes south over the Basta-Baliapal Road to Tepabulang, where it communicates through an inlet with the Coast Canal. At least two channels drain the flood waters of the Subarnarekha into this river. Between the Coast Canal and the sea, the river branches off into a network of some of the channels connecting Saratha to the south. This stream contains very little water during the summer months, but has been known to cause considerable damage in the rains, when it carries a great volume of the Subarnarekha flood.

### Saratha

In its upper reaches, it is known as Jamira, Baura, Surud, Maharti and Gulpha which are some of the tributaries that go to swell its main stream. After forming the boundary line between Balleshwar and Mayurbhanj districts for some distance, it is bridged by the railway a few kilometres south of Basta railway station. A little beyond this, it passes under the old Grand Trunk Road and then takes a course almost parallel to that of Haskura forming two large loops on the way. At the second loop it crosses the Orissa Coast Canal and gets interland through tiny channels with Haskura to its north and Panchpara to its south. It then falls into the sea at the mouth of the Panchpara. It is tidal as far as the Coast Canal, 16·10 km. from the sea.

### Jalaka

The Jalaka takes its rise from a spring in Sunaposi of Suliapada police-station in the district of Mayurbhanj, where it is named as Jambhira. It has three tributaries, namely, Bauranala, Mahantinala and Gulphanala. It turns into a turbulent river and ravages mainly the areas of Morada and Rasgobindpur police-stations during floods. The river then enters into the district of Balleshwar near Basta where it is known as Jalaka. Generally, it inundates eight Grama Panchayats in this district, viz., Baharda,

Sadanandpur, Brahmanda, Rautapada, Srirampur, Sahada, Mukulasi and Mathani covering the areas of Basta and Singla police-stations. Being joined by the Pejagala Nala, it meets the river Panchpara and then flows down to the Bay of Bengal.

The river is only 85 kilometres long. About 10 kilometres of the river is navigable largely due to tidal waters. Normally it does not change its course, but swells in case of heavy rains in the catchment area.

### **Panchpara**

This seems to be the name given to the river Bans in Baleshwar district which higher up has its origin in the Mayurbhanj district. Uniting with Bhairingi and a few other small tributaries, it enters into Baleshwar district a few kilometres to the west of the railway line. The intermediate country between this river and the Jamira after the former crosses the railway line is drained by a series of channels and also by a cut from the Saratha. The Panchapara then winds its course into the sea. The name of the river means five villages believed to have been existing at the spot where it enters the sea. The tide runs up only 16·10 km. and the interlacings of these streams constantly spread out into shallow swamps.

### **Burhabalanga**

It rises among the hills of Mayurbhanj and flows for its greater length within this district. After receiving a number of tributaries among whom the Madhabi, Gangahor and Sone are important, it winds its way into the sea near Chandipur after a course of 56·35 k.m., through the district. In the upper part of its course the banks are sandy, steep and cultivated, in the lower part they are of firm mud covered to high water mark with black ooze and surrounded by jungle or open grassy plains. It is tidal and sloops and small steamers could navigate its tortuous course as far as the town of Baleshwar but the sand bar across the mouth of the river, has rendered the entrance difficult. It is liable to floods but the area exposed to inundation, which lies to the north and north-west of the town is not large. The name which means literally the old twists has been given to the river because of the extraordinary way in which its course winds and bends. It is known to have changed its course, at places, considerably during the past decades. Though Baleshwar is merely 11·27 km. from the sea as the crow flies along this river the distance becomes 28·98 k.m. Considerable fishing activities through gill-net, trawlers, etc., is carried out at its mouth at Balaramgadi. This has helped building up of fishing infrastructure like a fishing jetty, ice and cold storage plants and hotels, both in public and private sectors.

**Jamka**

On the south of the Burhabalanga a network of rivers, known as the Jamka find their way down from the Nilagiri hills and enter the sea by many channels along the coast of the Dasmalong Pargana. There is little or no navigation, as their mouths have been closed up by the construction of the Coast Canal. There is no maritime traffic on their banks and the most important of these channels, the Jamka, has a sluice built about a mile (1.6 km.) from its mouth.

**Paga**

To the south of Burhabalanga is the Paga, a small stream of 16.10 km. long. The name is said to be a corruption of Prayag, the old name of the village near which it rises.

**Nembu**

The Nembu or Kantiachera rises in the Nilagiri hills and runs a course of 24.15 km. in the district. The name is said to mean the lemon river, and to be derived from the lemon groves which formerly used to fringe its banks. It forms along with Sapua a network before it joins the sea.

**Kansbans**

This is so called from a jungle of Kans grass and bamboos amid which it rises. It runs in a south-easterly direction, at first almost parallel to the Nilagiri hills and receives from them a number of nameless drainage streams on its northern bank. After passing under the bridge on the National Highway a few kilometres to the south of Soro, it bifurcates at Birpara, the northern branch retaining its original name and flowing into the sea 48.30 km. from the point where it enters the district.

**Gamai**

The southern branch of the Kansbans receives the name of Gamai and falls into the sea 9.66 km. south of the latter. Due to the Coast Canal, the river has been silted up with its passage to the sea almost closed. About 4.83 km. from its mouth is situated the old port of Chudaman, once an important centre of export trade but now an insignificant village. Like the Kansbans, the Gamai is liable to heavy floods but a great part of its flood water runs south-westwards along the old Churaman or Ricketts Canal into the Matai which drains the country east of Bhadrak.

**Baitarani**

It rises among the hills in the north-west of Kendujhar district and enters Baleshwar near the village Balipur. After flowing in a winding easterly course across the delta where it

marks the boundary line between Cuttack and Baleshwar it passes by Chandbali and joins its water with the Brahmani. After their confluence the united stream is named Dhamra which meets the sea after 8.05 km. It is navigable as far as Olekh, 24.15 km. from its mouth but beyond this point, it is not affected by the tide and is fordable during the hot season. The river is subject annually to heavy floods which travel inland to an average distance of 6.44 km. to 19.32 km. when it causes considerable damage to the standing crop. A large weir has been constructed across the stream at Akshuapada in order to dam the water during the dry season and supply water to the High Level Canal between that place and Bhadrak.

The river is identified as the styx of Hindu mythology but the name is possibly a corruption of Avitarani meaning difficult to cross. A legend relates that Lord Rama when marching to Lanka to rescue his wife Sita halted on its bank on the boarder of Kendujhar and in commemoration of this event large number of people visit the river every year in January.

The Baitarani receives two important tributaries in Baleshwar, the Salandi and the Matai.

### **Salandi**

The Salandi possibly a corruption of Sal Nadi takes its name from the Salforest through which it traverses. It rises on the southern slope of the Meghasani mountain of Mayurbhanj and throughout its upper course is a black-water river with high banks and a bottom of muddy sand. In January, it scarcely exceeds anywhere one metre in depth. Luxuriant vegetation clothes its banks which at places rise almost to the dignity of cliffs and for kilometres, the river runs through continuous groves of mangoes, palms and bamboos. It has no tide but it is navigable for country boats as high as 9.66 km. (6 miles) from its junction with the Baitarani. Its lower course breaks up into a network of channels which are interlaced with those of the Matai. Among its tributaries mention may be made of the Reb which joins it before it meets the Baitarani.


### **Matai**

The Matai brings down the drainage of the country between the Kansbans and the Salandi, and after a tortuous course over a muddy bed and between densely wooded banks, enters the Dhamra near its mouth. This river attains a considerable volume at Charbatia, where it is joined by the Coast Canal. It is tidal as far as Ruknadeipur, 12.88 km. east of Bhadrak and is navigable up to that point by country boats.

**GEOLOGY****Antiquity**

The geology of the district is rather simple in view of the fact that only a limited number of rock types are met within the north-western hilly tract of the district. The vast coastal tract in the south-east portion of the district is devoid of any rock types.

The various formations exposed in the district of Baleshwar belong to Archaean, middle proterozoic, pleistocene and recent groups. The unclassified gneisses exposed in the north-western part of the district are probably oldest and acted as basement. The iron-ore group rocks is not exposed in the district. Granites, peridotites Anorthosite-gabbro-granophyre complex and dolerites were later intruded into the unclassified gneiss during middle proterozoic time. This probably took place during the last phase of iron-ore orogeny. The intrusive phase was followed by formation of laterite during pleistocene period and finally by alluvium during recent period. From the available data, the tentative stratigraphic sequence of the district is as follows:

Alluvium	Recent
Pleistocene	Laterite
Middle Proterozoic	 { Dolerite dykes Anorthosite Epidiorite (gabbro) Granophyre complex Enstatite peridotite
Archaean	{ Unclassified gneisses Singhbhum granite

Distribution and description of individual rock units are as follows :

**Unclassified Gneisses**

These are exposed in the western part of Baleshwar bordering Mayurbhanj district. Generally two types of gneiss are present in the district. These are (1) fine grained grey gneiss and (2) coarse grained gneiss. The fine grained variety forms a featureless country which is usually flat or undulating and is generally covered by thick soil mantles and is used as paddy fields. The rock is usually biotitersch. The coarse type forms bare hill masses and contains xenoliths of grey gneisses. At places augens are seen to have been developed within the coarser gneiss. They are seen in the Nilagiri hills.

### Granite

These rocks are mostly intrusive into unclassified granite gneiss and are mostly hornblende granite type. These have been traced in the hill portions of the area east of longitude  $86^{\circ}40'$  and also at  $181$  ( $20^{\circ}57' : 86^{\circ}07'$ ) covered by toposheet 73 K/11. The granophyre gradually grades into the granite with an increase in grain size. Hornblende granite consists of quartz, microcline, perthite and albite-oligoclase with hornblende, sphene, biotite and apatite as accessories.

### Enstatite Peridotites

East of .1064 ( $21^{\circ}27' : 86^{\circ}42'$ ) and north-west of .1056 ( $21^{\circ}26' : 86^{\circ}44'$ ) in 73 K/11 a band of enstatite peridotite about one and a half kilometres long and 800 m. wide has been noted. The junction between these rocks and hornblende granite is sheared and covered by talc-chlorite schists. Small bands of enstatite peridotite in the hornblends granite which are almost altered into steatite are traced on the flat tops of the ridge north-east of .1685 ( $21^{\circ}23' : 86^{\circ}40'$ ), east of .1636 ( $21^{\circ}24' : 86^{\circ}41'$ ), south of .1114 ( $21^{\circ}21' : 86^{\circ}40'$ ) in the gentle sloping area. These patches are in various stages of alteration into chlorite-serpentine and talc bearing rocks. Anthophyllite asbestos is also seen developing at places.

There are several patches of enstatite peridotite in the biotite gneiss area covered by the north-western portion of toposheet 73 K/11. They are all altered into schists.

### Chromite

As a result of investigations conducted by the Directorate of Mining and Geology, two small lodes of chromite have been discovered around Bhalukasuni ( $21^{\circ}29'25'' : 86^{\circ}42'15''$ ) in Nilagiri subdivision within the ultrabasics. The chromite bodies are concealed and occur in cultivated land below a soil cover ranging from 0.5 mt. to as much as 14 mt. There may be hidden chromite lodes in the area. The results of the investigation indicate that the chromite deposit at Bhalukasuni occur as pediform and in association with peridotite and serpentised dunite. The total reserves of 1,550 tonnes has been estimated both for massive and spotted variety of chromite with  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3$  content ranging from 25.77 to 54.76 per cent. Chromite float is also noticed in the plains on either side of the magnetite deposits near Rangamatia in association with small ultrabasic bodies. The float chromite of the Rangamatia area is found to be high grade, crystalline, massive and contain 44.57 to 54.27 per cent  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3$ . Chromite has also been noticed in the northern foot hills of Asto Pahar SW of Rangamatia.

### Vanadiferrous magnetite

Vanadiferrous magnetite has been discovered around Rangamatia ( $21^{\circ}21' : 86^{\circ}39'$ ) and Betei ( $21^{\circ}24' : 86^{\circ}42'$ ) in Nilagiri subdivision by the Directorate of Mining and Geology. The deposit at Rangamatia occurs on the eastern slope of hillock 620 as two small pockets. The magnetite is massive, crystalline and greyish black in colour. The analysis result of the samples revealed that the percentage of  $V_2O_5$  content varies from 0.38 per cent to 1.238 per cent.

The other magnetite deposit at Betei constitutes three small lodes. The lodes are found on the eastern flank of Jhatikasuni, western flank of Daliasuni hillock and south-east of Dohihudia hillock lying to the eastern side of the road leading Gadasahi. This deposit is located south of Nilagiri-Udala road about 18 km. from Baleshwar. The ore is hard and massive and analysis results indicate that the percentage of  $V_2O_5$  varies from 0.044 per cent to 1.446 per cent.

### Epidiorite (gabbro)

These rocks are found at the following places of the district in sheet No. 73 K/11, at .900, from south of .900 to .1450 ( $21^{\circ}24' : 86^{\circ}33'$ ); .1050 ( $21^{\circ}24' : 86^{\circ}32'$ ) and the hill south-west of it, .1360 ( $21^{\circ}28' : 86^{\circ}40'$ ) and its westward ridge, .630 ( $21^{\circ}29' : 86^{\circ}40'$ ) and its westward ridge. The rock is essentially composed of plagioclase and hornblende, both minerals showing slight elongation. At the junction between granite and epidiorite the latter is highly sheared and schistose.

### Granophyre

Granophyres which form the entire hill masses, extend from .1339 ( $21^{\circ}22' : 86^{\circ}30'$ ) eastwards upto .1850 ( $21^{\circ}24' : 86^{\circ}30'$ ) and from there northwards upto .2052 ( $21^{\circ}27' : 86^{\circ}38'$ ). Another major band of banded granophyre is seen extending from .1425 ( $21^{\circ}27' : 86^{\circ}48'$ ) to .221 ( $21^{\circ}27' : 86^{\circ}42'$ ). Towards the contact with epidiorite and biotite gneiss, the granophyre is banded and fine grained. South of .1450 and several other places along the epidiorite granophyre junction, the granophyre includes several patches of epidiorite.

The granophyres are generally riebeckite bearing and consist essentially of phenocrysts showing granophyric intergrowth of quartz and felspar in a fine grained ground mass. The banded granophyre contains flakes of biotite in addition to the above minerals.



### Younger Dolerites

Dykes of dolerite belonging to the Singhbhum newer dolerite sequence are found on almost all the linear ridge tops in the northern and northwestern parts of toposheet 73 K/11. They are flanked on either side by biotite granite gneiss. The prominent strike of dolerites in the district is N 30° E 30° S. W. The dykes are seen among the hornblende-granite also, as at .779 (21°22' : 86°41'), Hathikhola (21°24' : 86°40') and .1623 (21°25' : 86°43') in sheet No. 73 K/11.

The dolerites in the above area show subophitic texture and consist of labradorite and titan augite. The augite shows twinning and is partially altered into hornblende. Augite also alters to sphene leucosene and chlorite. Most of the plagioclase is fresh. At places it alters into zoisite.

### Laterite

Laterites are seen to have been developed over biotite gneiss and granites, and are also locally found.

### Mineral Resources

The district is practically devoid of any important mineral deposit. Some of the minerals of the district which are used economically are as follows :

### Road and building materials

Granitic gneiss and basic rocks around the Nilagiri town (21°27' : 86°46') and Machhana (21°33' : 86°47') are quarried for use as road metal and ballast. Kankar suitable for lime burning occurs extensively around Jamuna (21°29' : 86°35') and Rangamatia (21°29' : 86°39').

### Steatite/Soapstone

Potstone occurring at Mahamuhan (21°21' : 86°40') is worked in a small way. The old workings on the hills here illustrate the extent of mining in the past. A kind of magnesian rock, intermediate in composition between potstone and serpentine, approaching the former in appearance but less greasy in lustre, occurs interfoliated with gneiss, a few kilometres south of Nilagiri (21°27' : 86°46') and near Santragodia (21°23' : 86°46') and Goojaduha (21°23' : 86°39'). Small deposits of talc occur near Rangamatia Pahar (21°27' : 86°38').

### Clay

Highly decomposed gneisses north of Arabandha have given rise to white plastic, gritty clay. The deposit is extensive but the clay content is only about ten per cent. North of Gardihi ( $21^{\circ}34'$  :  $86^{\circ}40'$ ) a 2-3 m. thick white clay deposit occurs beneath a laterite capping. The clay is banded in appearance and is slightly gritty.

### Monazite

Occurrence of monazite is reported from the sea sand in the coastal area of the district.

### FORESTS

Except in Nilagiri subdivision, there is hardly any natural forest area in Baleshwar district. The total area under forests is 359·673 square kilometres which is 5·64 per cent of the geographical area of the district as against the minimum of 20 per cent and 60 per cent prescribed respectively for plain areas and hilly areas in the National Forest Policy. Baleshwar district comes partly under the administrative jurisdiction of Baripada Forest Division and the balance under the Wildlife Conservation Division, Chandbali. The forest area of the district in the two divisions mentioned above, as per the records available with the Chief Conservator of Forests, Orissa, is as follows :

(Area in sq. km.)					
Name of the Division	Reserved Forest	Demarcated Protected Forest	Undemarcated Protected Forest	Unclassified Forest	Total Forest area
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Baripada	204·33	125·46	..	..	329·79
Wildlife Conservation, Chandbali	..	21·00	8·88	0·003	29·883
	204·33	146·46	8·88	0·003	359·673

Most of this area is concentrated in Nilagiri subdivision only. The entire reserved forest area is in Nilagiri subdivision except 116 acres (46·40 hectares) of casuarina plantation in Chandipur Range of Baleshwar subdivision which was declared as reserved forest only with effect from 10th February, 1986. Besides, an area of 17·26 sq. km. of sea-coast casuarina plantation is under reservation proceedings in respect of which noti-

fication under section 4 of the Orissa Forest Act, has already been issued. Another area of 2.14 sq. km. in Raibania ex-zamindary forest has been resurveyed for notification under section 4 of the Orissa Forest Act, 1972 to constitute it as a Reserved Forest.

Systematic exploitation of forest in Nilagiri subdivision prior to any scientific management was first attempted during the later part of the 19th century when construction of the East Coast Railway was taken up. Prior to this, the people had free access to all kinds of forest produce without any payment. Consequently the forest area began to shrink due to over exploitation. In the year 1900, the ex-Durbar administration of the Nilagiri ex-state for the first time, framed rules for regulation, management and protection of forests. The forests were divided into four ranges for convenience of management. Permits were issued for taking small quantities of fuel and bamboo. Systematic regulated felling was introduced in the year 1904. A simple Working Plan of 1932, which remained in force till 1947, provided the basis for scientific management of all demarcated forests. The Revised Working Plan for the period 1948-58, drawn up by Dr. H. F. Mooney, the then Forestry Advisor of the Eastern States Agency, was followed even after the merger of Nilagiri ex-state in Orissa Province. Exploitation of annual coupes through contract system was carried on till the year 1979 when forest exploitation was nationalised and the Similipal Forest Development Corporation, a Government of Orissa Undertaking, was assigned the exclusive authority to exploit the forests.

The main forest products are timber, firewood, Mahua flower and seed, Sal seeds and leaves, myrobalan, tamarind, Bani leaves in coastal Chandbali range, nux vomica, Sunari bark, tassar, minor minerals such as stones, ballasts, chips, etc. The Kuldiha forests, under Nilagiri subdivision, cater to the daily needs of the people of Nilagiri and Baleshwar area in respect of firewood and small timbers. Huge quantities of black granite chips are supplied to Railway Department and for this leases have been granted to various contractors who operate quarries on long term basis.

#### FLORA

The following account is based on the information from the old Balasore gazetteer (1907) regarding flora of the district.

"Along the coast as far north as the Burhabalanga river are large grassy plains with occasional sparse patches of cultivation and low jungle on the sand ridges and near the tidal streams.

North of the Burhabalanga, and specially round the mouth of the Haskura and Subarnarekha are numerous tidal creeks fringed with heavy jungle. The banks of these sluggish rivers and creeks, which wind through the swampy low-lying country near the sea, exhibit the vegetation of a mangrove forest.

These tidal or mangrove forest of the coastal areas are considered to be a seral sub-type under the northern tropical moist deciduous forest. The common species are *Rhizophora mucronata* (Rai), *Heritiera minor* (Sundri), *Excoecaria agallocha* (Guan), *Acanthus ilicifolius* (Harkunchi), *Phoenix paludosa* (Hental), *Avicennia alba* (Bani), *Ceriops*, *Sonneratia*, etc.

Where sand-dunes intervene between the sea and the cultivated land behind, a littoral vegetation uncommon in Bengal is met with, which includes *Spinifex*, *Hydrophylax*, *Geniosporum prostratum* and similar species. These sand hills stretching between the fertile rice plains and the sea constitute the only really distinctive feature of Orissa from a botanical point of view and present not a few of the littoral species characteristic of the Madras sea coast. The cultivated land which occupies the central alluvial tract has the usual rice-field weeds, while ponds and ditches are filled with floating water weeds or submerged water plants. Near human habitations shrub beries containing various semi-spontaneous shrubs are common. This undergrowth is loaded with a tangled mass of climbing *Naravelia*, various *Menispermaceae*, many *Apocynaceae*, several species of *Vitis*, a number of *Cucurbitaceae*, and several *Convolvulaceae*. The arborescent portion of these village-shrubberies includes the red cotton tree (*Bombax malabaricum*), *Odina wodier*, *Tamarindus indica*, *Moringa pterygo-sperma*, the Pipal (*Ficus religiosa*), the Banyan (*Ficus bengalensis*), the Palmyra (*Borassus flabellifer*) and date palm (*Phoenix sylvestris*). There are no forests, but in the west of the district, where the boundary approaches the hills and the lands are higher, patches of jungle occur, including a little Sal (*Shorea robusta*) which rarely attains any size. The usual bamboo is *Bambusa arundinacea*. Open glades are filled with grasses sometimes of a reedy character; sedges are abundant and farms are fairly plentiful."

### **Botanical Divisions and rare types of flora**

The natural vegetation of the district is restricted to small areas of the outlying hills of Nilagiri in the north-west and the mangrove forests near Chandbali along Dhamra river and to the estuaries of Burhabalanga and Subarnarekha. The cultivated plains present a flora of seasonal aspects and weeds in many varied habitats.

The Nilagiri hills have laterite soil bearing dry deciduous mixed forests comprising *Terminalis tomentosa* (Asan), *Pterocarpus marsupium* (Piasal), *Anogeissus latifolia* (Dhau), *Xylia xylocarpa* (Kangada), *Dalbergia latifolia* (Sisu), *Cleistanthua collinus* (Karada), *Bridelia retusa* (Kashi), *Diospyros sylvatica* (Mankada Kendu), *Firmiana colorata*, *Mangifera indica* (Mango), *Ougeinia dalbergioides* (Bandhana), and *Strychnos potatorum* (Kadakala). On the rocky places are found *Nyctanthes arbor-tristis* (Gangasiuli), *Petalidium barlerioides*, *Hemigraphis latebrosa* var. *heyneana*, *Justicia betonica*, *Leucas montana*, *Dicliptera roxburghiana*, *Flacourtia indica* and *Maba buxifolia*. The common bamboo *Dendrocalamus strictus* occupies valleys and lower slopes of the Nilagiri hills.

The alluvial plains of Baleshwar-Bhadrak belt represent chiefly rice fields supporting both "Abi" and "Tabi", crops of paddy (*Oryza sativa*) and few oil-seed crops like mustard and sesamum. On the bunds of the black cotton soils of rice fields are often found a few tree species, *Narengi crenulata*, *Soymida febrifuga* (Rohini), *Butea monosperma* (Palash), *Acacia nilotica* (Babul), Subsp. *indica*, *A. leucophaea* (Gobira), *Dichrostachys cinerea*, *Parkinsonia aculeata*, *Mitragyna parvifolia* (Godi kurum), and *Borassus flabellifer* (Tata). Several grasses like *Dichanthium annulatum*, *Heteropogon contortus*, *Sehima nervosum*, *Chionachne koenigii*, *Themeda quadrivalvis*, *Iseilema laxum*, *Sacciolepis indica*, *Paspalidium flavidum* and *Triumfetta rhomboidea*, *Sida acuta*, *Urena lobata*, *Malachra capitata*, *Corchorus aestuana*, and *Cyanotis axillaris* are found along the field bunds, while a few herbs like *Striga euphrasioides*, *Polygonum plebejum*, *Eriocaulon quinquangulare*, *Limnophila heterophylla*, *Lindernia ciliata*, *Vendellia crustacea*, *Utricularia coerulea*, *Caesulia axillaris*, *Ammannia baccifera* and *Commelina benghalensis* are weeds in the moist fields along with the main crop. On the other hand, the tanks or lakes and roadside swamps adjoining fields have floating/ rooting aquatic vegetation, etc. *Ottelia alismoides*, *Nymphaea nouchali*, *Nymphoides cristata*, *Ipomoea aquatica*, *Pistia stratiotes*, *Eichornia crassipes* and *Hygrophiza aristata*, etc., and the marginal vegetation comprising *Sphaeranthus indicus*, *Hygrophila auriculata*, *Polycarpon prostratum*, *Alternanthera sessilis*, *Rumex dentatus* and *Gnaphalium luteo-album*, etc.

The Pteridophytic flora of the Nilagiri hills is represented by *Th. parasitica*, *Doryopteris ludens*, *Adiantum caudatum*, *Hemionitis arifolia*, *Pteris vittate*, *Pteris eretica*, *Ceratopteris thalictroides*, *Lygodium flexuosum*, *Marsilia minuta*, *Salvinia cucullata* and *Azolla pinnata* amongst others.

In the plains are often found a few wastelands and pastures which show a distinct flora. In the moist places near the house-sites in the villages, many herbs, such as *Launaea nudicaulis*,

*Tridax procumbens*, *Ageratum conyzoides*, *Trichodesma zeylanicum*, *Cleoma gynandra*, *Cleome viscosa*, *Commelina benghalensis*, *Coleus forskohlii*, *Zeuxine Sulcata*, *Imperata cylindrica*, *Panicum repens*, *Dichrostachys cinerea*, *Eragrostis gangetica* and *Vetiveria zizanioides* abound while *Waltheria indica*, *Coldenia procumbens*, *Heliotropium indicum*, *Evolvulus alsinoides*, *Euphorbia hirta*, *Solanum surattense*, *Achyranthes aspera*, *Calotropis gigantea* (Anka), *Datura fastuosa* (Dudura), *Elephantopus scaber*, *Burmannia coelestis*, *Scoparia dulcis*, *Argemone mexicana* (Agara) and *Hyptis suaveolens*, many grasses and sedges are found in the drying puddles and village grazing lands.

*Mangifera indica* (Ambo), *Aegle marmelos* (Bel), *Albizia lebbek* (Siris), *Pongamia pinnata* (Karanj), *Syzygium cumini* (Jamu), *Tamarindus indica* (Tentuli), *Azadirachta indica* (Neem), *Limonia elephantum*, *Terminalia arjuna* (Arjuna), *Bambusa tulda* (bamboo), *Bambusa arundinacea* (Daba bamboo), *Flacourtia ramontchi*, *Streblus asper*, *Gardenia* sap., *Euphorbia terucalli* constitute important trees and shrubs in the village groves. *Pandanus tectorius* (Kia) and of late, *Ipomoea fistulosa* (Amari), *Euphorbia nivulia*, (Siju), *Jatropha curcas* (Gaba), etc., form extensive hedges between the rice fields and the village grazing lands or to protect gardens and fields. *Nymphaea stellata*, *Nyphaea rubra*, *Pistia stratiotes*, *Trapa bispinosa*, *Panicum paludosum*, *Hygrophiza aristata*, *Eleocharis* spp., *Cyperus globosus* and *Neptunia oleracea* form some of the many aquatics in the tanks and swamps in the area.

In some places the cultivated fields give way to sandy wastes dotted over with palms (*Phoenix sylvestris*), *Salopo*, *Borassus flabellifer* (Tal), and in the villages, *Cocos nucifera* (cocoanut palm).

The coastal area of the district extends from the Subarnarekha river in the north to the Baitarani river in the south, alternating with deltaic and tidal alluvium. The region represents a straightly curved coastline interrupted by the estuaries at the mouth of the rivers Subarnarekha, Burhabalanga and the Baitarani. It is characterised by sand dunes, sandy wastes and strips of open beach washed daily by the high tides from the Bay of Bengal.

The sand-flora and the development of strand forests along the coastline are, however, very much disturbed due to recent massive programmes for cultivating rice, despite sub-saline habitats. However, under favourable climatic conditions, prevailing in the hinterland one notices the sequential pattern of development of sand-flora, from the pioneer mat formations to that of undershrub stages.

The coastal sands present a characteristic vegetation comprising *Spinifex littoreus* (a perennial spring creeper with long horizontal runners), *Cyperus stolaniferus*, *Cyperus arenarius*, *Ipomoea pes-caprae*, *Bulbostylis subspinescens*, *Leunaea pinnatifida*, *Stylosanthes mucronata*, *Desmodium biarticulatum*, *Hydrophylax maritima*, *Oldenlandia areanaria*, *Euphorbia rosea*, *Panicum repens*, *Fimbristylis polytrichida*, and *Phyllanthus rotundifolius*, *Calotropis* spp., *Strychnos nuxvomica*, etc., of which many species are soil-binders or grow in stabilized sandy relief.

In localities with rocks a little away from the Bay of Bengal are found a few scrubby patches representing the effect of poor soil conditions and of strong sea winds. *Gymnosporia emarginata*, *Scutia myrtina*, *Azima tetracantha*, *Pisonia aculeata*, *Euphorbia caducifolia* and *Cissus quadrangularis*, etc., are the common elements.

The characteristics flora on the sand dunes stretching between the fertile rice fields and the sea are very poor mainly due to biotic effects. *Spinifex littoreus*, a perennial spring creeper with long horizontal runners is found here as a sand binder. *Aristolochia indica*, *Perotis indica*, *Portulaco tuberosa*, *Calotropis procera*, *Polycarpaea corymbosa*, *Oldenlandia stricta*, *Zornia gibbosa*, *Tephrosia villosa*, *Bulbostylis barbata*, *Desmodium biarticulatum* and *Fimbristylis polytrichidae* are found growing on some small sand dunes, which intervene between the sea and the cultivated land behind. Some slacks and sand-flats are also found along the lee-side of the sand dunes and are covered extensively by *Phoenix paludosa*, the coastal palm. Outermost part of the coastline is covered with *Borassus flabellifer* (Tal), *Cocos nucifera* (coconut), *Calophyllum inophyllum* (Polang), *Thespesia populnea*, *Pandanus* sp. (Kia), semi-naturalized plantations of *Casuarina equisetifolia* (Jhanu), *Anacardium occidentale* (cashew), *Pandanus tectorius*, etc., flourish well.

The mouth of the rivers Subarnarekha, Burhabalanga and Dhamra exhibit the flora of an estuarine complex. *Avicennia marina*, *A. officinalis*, *A. alba*, *Sonneratia apetala*, *Premna obtusifolious*, *Aegiciras majus*, *Rhizophora mucronata*, *Bruguiera gymnorrhiza*, *Caesalpinia nuga*, *Excoecaria agallocha*, *Hibiscus tiliaceus*, *Clerodendron inerme* and *Acanthus ilicifolius* are the main floristic components in this area. In the salt marshes *Suaeda maritima* and *Salicornia brachiata* are found frequently behind the coastline. Along the river banks scattered bushy trees, shrubs and grasses make the landscapes more or less riverine scrub jungle type with *Tamarix gallica*, *Zizyphus oenceplia*, *Carissa spinarum*, *Eleocharis geniculata* and others as dominant components.

### Character of forests and types of vegetation

The forests of Nilagiri range may be described as deciduous coastal Sal forest. The species generally found are Sal (*Shorea robusta*), Piasla (*Pterocarpus marsupium*), Asan (*Terminalia tomentosa*), Dhau (*Anogissu latifolia*), Sisoo (*Dalbergia latifolia*), Teak (*Tectona grandis*), Gambhari (*Gmelins arborea*), Kurm (*Adina cordifolia*), Kangala (*Xylia xyloarpa*), Kasi (*Bridelia retusa*), Karla (*Cleistanthus collinus*), Amba (*Mangifera indica*), Moi (*Lannea*), Tentara (*Albizia stipulata*), and Casuarina. Teak and casuarina are planted and do not occur as natural vegetation in the forests of this district.

The forest of Chandbali Forest Division is broadly classified as coastal mangrove swamp forest.

### Forest Management

The reserved forests of Nilagiri range is being managed under the prescription of Working Scheme prepared by B. Mishra, A.I.F.C., Assistant Working Plan Officer, Anugul Circle, covering a period of 20 years from 1969-70 to 1988-89. The entire forests of Nilagiri range have been grouped into six Working Circles for the purpose of scientific management as follows,

- |                                   |    |                    |
|-----------------------------------|----|--------------------|
| 1. Coppice Working Circle         | .. | 11,996.00 hectares |
| 2. Selection Working Circle       | .. | 4,039.20 Ditto.    |
| 3. Teak Plantation Working Circle | .. | 1,022.80 Ditto.    |
| 4. Rehabilitation Working Circle  | .. | 1,743.60 Ditto.    |
| 5. M.F.P. Working Circle          | .. | (Overlapping)      |
| 6. Wildlife Working Circle        | .. | (Overlapping)      |

The Coppice Working Circle chiefly comprises the plain and valley portion of Kuldiha Block containing Sal forest. The Selection Working Circle includes the areas of high forest working circle excluding the plain and valley portion of Kuldiha Block. The Teak Plantation Working Circle includes the areas planted with teak in Kuldiha Block. The Rehabilitation Working Circle mainly embraces the eroded areas of Kuldiha Block and degraded forest areas of Arabandha, Mitrapur, Ayodhya and Debagiri Blocks, which have not been included under Coppice Working Circle. The Minor Forest Produce Working Circle is an over-lapping working circle all over the coppice and selection working circles. The Wildlife Working Circle is chiefly meant for development and protection of wildlife in Kuldiha Wildlife Sanctuary. There is no plan or schemes for the casuarina forests (plantation) in the coastal areas. It is being worked out by 10 years rotation, and the first rotation period began in the year 1973-74.



## Rights and Concessions

In Nilagiri ex-state the Forest Rules of 1940 was in force. Some features of these rules were that Khesra forest did not include individual trees or groups of trees within the village limits. Reserved trees of less than three feet girth on cultivated lands could be cut without permission. Before merger the tenants had no right over trees on their holdings. No trees could be cut without permission or sold without payment of royalty. For every reserved tree cut the cultivator was bound to plant two trees on his holdings—a rule which in the interest of ecology is now being sought to be in force throughout India but which on merger of the ex-state was given a go-by. There were A class and B class reserves in addition to village or Khesra forest. Nistar cess or commutation fee was levied at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  anna (about 10 paise) per *man* (0.62 acre) of land on persons holding rent free lands and one anna (6 paise) per *man* by raiyats. They were entitled to take trees of species not declared reserved tree for their own use from Khesra forests. From certain other forests timber was allowed to be cut at half the royalty from the 15th December to the 30th June. Firewood was allowed at one anna (Rs 0.06) per bullock load for cess payers. Non-cess payers were allowed to take unreserved species free but there were very few non-cess payers. Full royalty was charged to outsiders. The Nistar forests of some villages were about five miles (equivalent to about 8 km.) distant from the villages. All cess payers did not actually avail themselves of the timber as the areas allotted for Nistar was in sufficient. The rules also provided for sale of timber from Khesra forests to traders. Reserved species of trees were said to be found in large numbers in the Khesra forest but there was not enough of unreserved species in the Khesra forests. There were formally 24 reserved species but subsequently this was limited to eleven.

Under the Forest Rules all residents of the ex-state were bound to render assistance in clearing forest boundary lines and it was the special duty of villagers living within five miles of the reserved forests on payment of daily wages at prescribed rates.

In the case of reclamation of forest land no definite period was prescribed. Assessment was made after a reasonable period. If the land was waste land which did not require clearing, only one year was allowed in practice. Salami was levied at rates varying from Rs. 10 to Rs. 25 per *man* ( $\frac{2}{3}$  acre) according to the quality of the land.

Forest species declared reserved species were (1) Sal, (2) Bija, (3) Kendu, (4) Harida (5) Kusum, (6) Mahul, (7) Kochila, (8) Bandhan, (9) Asan, (10) Sunari and (11) Char.

The report of the Forest Enquiry Committee, Orissa, 1959 enumerates the rights and concessions of Nilagiri ex-state as follows:

*Nistar cess or other cesses*—Re. 0-1-6 and Re. 0-1-0 per *man* of land by Lakhrajders and raiyats respectively.

Demand—Rs. 7,500/—

*In 'A' class Reserved Forests :*

Timber—Allowed from an area of 40 acres from Ayedhya and 14 acres from Debgiri 'A' class reserved forests at concessional rate to people of neighbouring villages.

Firewood—Ditto

Bamboo—Nil

Minor Forest—Edible fruits, roots, flowers, leaves and creepers Products free for personal consumption.

Grazing—No free grazing

Re. A. P.

Buffalo 0-8-0

Cow or bullock 0-6-0

*In 'B' class Reserved Forests or D. P. Fs.*

Timber—At half the royalty

Firewood—One anna per bullock load

Bamboo— Nil

Minor Forest—Edible fruits, roots, flowers, leaves and Products creepers free for personal consumption.

Grazing—No free grazing

*In Khesra or unreserved or U. D. P. Fs.*

Timber—Unreserved species free. Reserved species at concessional rate.

Firewood—Ditto

Bamboo—Free

Minor Forest—Free

Products

Grazing.—Free

The remaining areas of Baleshwar district were either permanently settled or temporarily settled zamindary areas except a few acres of Khasmahal lands. Therefore the forests were controlled and managed by the zamindars as full proprietors in their respective zamindari until their rights were restricted by passing of two legislations, viz., The Orissa Preservation of Private Forests Act, 1947 which provided for preservation of private forests

to prevent their indiscriminate deforestation and The Orissa Communal Forest and Private lands (Prohibition of Alienation) Act, 1948 (Act I of 1948) which aimed at preventing alienation of forest land, etc., without prior permission of the Collector retrospectively with effect from the 1st April, 1946. Each zamindary had its own forest rules or practice whether written or unwritten. Most of the zamindaries were small except a portion of Kanika ex-estate, a part of which was in Baleshwar district to the extent of 453.00 sq. km. Most of the forests of that zamindary were situated in Cuttack district. In Baleshwar district there was only one Forest Block called Bony Jungle. The zamindar had prescribed a forest rule called "Kanika State Forest Rules" for management of his forests. The rights and concessions in Kanika zamindary as enumerated in the Report of the Forest Enquiry Committee, Orissa, 1959 are given below:

Reserved species	..	Nil
Cosses	..	Nil
In Zamindary Zapti	.. no rights	or concessions.
In open forests—		

- (1) The tenants can get firewood, thatching materials, agricultural implements, etc., from Ghar jungle for their personal use on obtaining permits within the period 1st October to 31st December on payment of Re. 1-0-6 and for permits after the said period at Rs. 2-0-0.
- (2) The Kumbhar, Kamar and Bania tenants for their profession can remove firewood for preparing charcol on payment of Re. 0-2-0 per maund and charcoal on payment of Re. 0-12-0 per maund with special permits. Others may also get the above materials on payment of the above fees.
- (3) The *pahi* tenants who require for their *pahi* cultivation, can be allowed firewood, thatching materials, agricultural implements, etc., on obtaining permits within 30th June on payment of fee Re. 0-12-6. After this period they shall have to pay Re.1-9-0 for each permit.
- (4) Outsiders of the estate, who come for cultivation purposes in the estate, can be allowed firewood for their own use on payment of annual permit fee of Re.2-0-0. Those who are boat merchants can be allowed firewood and certain boat materials for their profession on payment of annual fee of Re.4-0-0 for each boat from "ghar jungle."

On vesting of the estate, the Tahasildars managed the zamindari forests also called "Anchal forests" under the Revenue Department. Subsequently Government ordered in 1957 that all the forests in the ex-state areas should be transferred to the control of Forest Department. By that time bulk of Bony Jungle Block had been encroached upon.

Inhabitants of a village or town close to a protected forest exercise their right of taking forest products at concessional rates which are known as "Schedule of Rates". This was very low compared to the prevailing market rates. But in November 1977 the State Government prescribed a set of rules called the "Schedule of Rate for Forest Produce in Orissa Rules, 1977" under the Orissa Forest Act which effected some increase in the previous Schedule of Rates for forest produce including minor forest produce which the inhabitants of towns and villages in the vicinity of the protected forests will have to pay on issue of permit by the Forest Officer for their own use and not for trade. Though these rates superceded the previous Schedule of Rates, still they were much below the prevailing market price for forest produce.

### **Forest Development**

Forests play a vital and important role in the economy and ecology not only of this district but also for the entire country as a whole. Until recently there was no consciousness either on the part of the administration or on the part of the society that forests have an intrinsic right to land. Forestry as such was permitted on residual land not required for any other purposes. This led to large scale deforestation throughout the country. Whatever forest was there in Baleshwar was largely deforested owing to indiscriminate leases given by the ex-zamindars and also due to large scale encroachments. The damage caused by such providence has been realised somewhat lately. This has led to the change in the Government policy from mere consolidation, protection and conservation to development which includes afforestation and plantation activities not only by the Forest Department but also by other organisations like Soil Conservation and Horticulture under Agriculture Department, and state undertakings such as Orissa Forest Corporation and Orissa Plantation Development Corporation. Plantation activities of the Forest Department is no longer confined to reserved forests through territorial forest divisions but also in community and road-side lands and marginal lands which are not suitable for agriculture through Afforestation and Social Forestry Divisions. A special project with international assistance (Swedish International Development Authority) is operating in this district from 1984-85.

In the year 1971 the Cyclone Distress Mitigation Committee, Orissa, recommended to the Government of India to raise a coastal belt plantation along the entire coast of the district to a width of about 1 km. from the high tide line to prevent sand-dunes, cyclones and tidal water damaging agricultural fields and villages. According to the decision of the Government of India, the coastal shelter belt scheme had been taken up in the district, along with the districts of Cuttack, Puri and Ganjam. For casuarina plantation work, a Coastal Shelter Belt Afforestation Division was created at Baleshwar and it started functioning in the district in 1979 under the administrative control of the Coastal Shelter Belt Afforestation Circle, with headquarters located at Cuttack. Some plantations were also raised through Baripada Territorial Forest Division along this coastal belt prior to 1979. By the end of 1979, an area of 534.80 hectares was covered by plantation in the coastal belt of the district. Between 1979-80 and 1985-86 through the Coastal Shelter Belt Division, 163,575 lakh seedlings were planted over 5145.20 hectares along the coastal areas, mainly with casuarina species at a cost of Rs. 142.66 lakhs. In addition to this in-land plantation in Nilagiri range over 4190 hectares were taken up with 64.68 lakh seedlings at a cost of Rs. 46.17 lakhs, mainly with species such as acacia, sissoo, eucalyptus, etc. Besides the above, another 1595.50 hectares of private land were planted with 41.23 lakh seedlings between 1979-80 and 1985 as per provisions of the "Orissa Forest (Management of Coastal Shelter Belt Plantation raised on Private Lands) Rules, 1980." Avenue plantations were taken up in different years along important roads with funds available from District Rural Development Agency. Annually casuarina coupes are opened and the wood is mainly sold in auction sale for purpose of firewood which is in great demand. The average annual revenue from sale of casuarina coupe is about Rs. 15 to Rs. 16 lakhs.

In case of the bilaterally aided Social Forestry Project (SIDA), 51 per cent of the expenditure is made available from the state budget and the balance 49 per cent constitutes Swedish assistance through the Central Government as a Plan additionality. During 1985 to 1987, with the available funds under SIDA, 591 hectares of village forest, 521 hectares of reforestation and 554 hectares of rehabilitation of degraded forests and 23.5 hectares of Forest Farming for Rural Poor were achieved in the district besides distribution of 9.34 lakh seedlings free of cost to local people for planting under Farm Forestry. This project is different from departmental plantation in the sense that the plantation works are executed through people's participation for which Village Forest Committees are constituted and a Joint Management Plan is prepared for each plantation with the involvement of village committee.

### **Game laws and Prevention of wildlife**

Previously shooting permits were issued on payment of a fee of Rs. 10 for a week for games from one shooting Block. Laws for preservation of wildlife had also been enforced in the district.

The Orissa Forest Act, 1972 (Act 14 of 1972) and the Orissa Forest Shooting Rules, 1973 and the Orissa Wildlife (Protection) Rules, 1974 made thereunder, are promulgated in the entire state. They apply to all the reserved and protected forests of Orissa. The various provisions embodied in the above statutes are strictly enforced for the protection of the wildlife in the district throughout the year. Although the Orissa Forest Shooting Rules, 1973 is in force, yet issue of permit under the Shooting Rules, in a sense, has been abolished. The Kuldiha Forests have been declared a sanctuary area with effect from the 2nd January, 1984, in order to protect the forest habitat.

### **FAUNA**

It appears from the account in the old Balasore gazetteer (1907) that during the advent of British rule the district abounded in wild animals. A traveller who visited Orissa in 1806 found himself in danger of the wild beasts which haunted the jungle from the moment he entered the province and between Baleshwar and Cuttack, he passed through a dense jungle infested by tigers and required a guard of Sepoys to protect him from the dangers of the journey. Even as late as 1840 elephants were common, tigers and leopards were found all over the district being especially numerous in the heavy jungle near the coast to the south, while immense herds of wild buffalo that were found near the sea had become so large and numerous that they did incalculable mischief and were a terror to the country.

Things had changed greatly, cultivation was expanded to the extent when the wild animals ranging over the countryside had given way before the advance of the plough. The fauna as they were in the district in early part of the century is given below:

"Wild elephants are occasionally met with in the jungly tracts to the west, but these are only stray visitors from the Keonjhar Hills. There are also a few wild buffaloes left; and tigers, though not common, are found along the Dhamra below Chandbali and in the waste tracts to the north-east round Baliapal and Bhograi, but the jungle is so dense that they are out of reach of the sportsmen's gun. The latter tract is also the haunt of leopards and black bear are common near Panchapalli and Jamkunda. Wolves do some damage among the cultivators' cattle and hyenas are found all over the district, wherever there is shelter for them in patches of waste land. In the sandy tracts adjoining the sea there are a number of deer, spotted deer, mouse deer and antelope; and here too there are large herds of wild pig which do great damage to the cultivator's crops.

A herd of wild buffaloes was reported to be roaming in the Chandinipal forest of Baleshwar on the coast some thirty years ago. Apparently it got domesticated by contact with domestic herds.

King crab a marine animal was found on the sea-shore at Chand-bali in Baleshwar district. It was a relic of life as it existed millions of years ago.

### **Zoological types**

#### **Mammal**

The following are the animals found in the forests of Nilagiri subdivision of the district.

**Wild Elephant (*Hati*)**—The wild elephant (*Elephas maximus indicus*) is common in the Nilagiri hills and is found in paddy fields in the harvest season.

**Spotted Deer (*Chital*)**—The Spotted deer (*Axis axis*) known as Chital is very common. Gregarious in habit, it is less nocturnal than the Sambar. Preferring low lying lands close to water resources, it is careless of the neighbourhood of man and therefore falls an easy prey to Shikaris aiming from a water hole. Shedding of horns, said to be in July and August, is extremely irregular. They seldom choose more hilly tracts for their habitat.

**Barking Deer (*Kutra*)**—The barking deer (*Muntiacus muntjak*) is also found in the forests of Nilagiri subdivision. It is often heard and easily recognised by its dog-like bark.

**Wild Boar (*Baraha*)**—The wild boars (*Sus cristatus*) are found in the jungle area of Nilagiri hills. They are extremely destructive to crops.

**Panther (*Kalarapatia Bagha*)**—The panther or leopard (*Panthera pardus*) is found in the dense forest of the district, specially in Nilagiri area. The panther is a very cunning animal and can easily climb trees. It lifts cattle and other domesticated animals freely from villages. When a panther becomes a man-eater it is to be more dreaded than a tiger. Then it will quickly pounce over the walls of huts in villages and seize the inmates while asleep and also attacks men in *manchan* watching their fields.

**Leopard Cat (*Felis bengalensis*)**—Leopard cat is also found in the district.

**Sloth Bear (*Bhalu*)**—The sloth bear (*Melursus ursinus*) is found all over the forests generally in caves and plain area of Nilagiri hills. It lives on the Mahua (*Basia latifolia*) flowers, berries and white ants but now and again one develops carnivorous tendencies. They seldom attack people except when taken by surprise.

**Jackal (*Bilua*)**—The jackal (*Canis aureus*) is very common. It avoids heavy forests and chiefly inhabits the scrub-jungle near villages.

**Fox**—The fox (*Vulpes bengalensis*) is common in the open areas as it avoids heavy woods. It is known to become tame in captivity.

### Game birds

In game and other birds the district is not fairly rich. Among the game birds mention may be made of peacock, snipe, golden plover, wild duck, wild geese, quail, red partridge, black partridge (*Francolinus francolinus*), jungle fowl (*Gallus gallus*), etc. The common green pigeon (*Treron phoenicopterus*) is numerous in the Nilagiri hills.

**Reptiles**—It appears from the account in the old Balasore gazetteer (1907) that alligators and crocodiles were found in all the largest rivers of the district and the mugger or snub-nosed crocodiles were often very destructive. Among snakes Naga, cobra (Tampa and Gokhara), Krait and *squirrel* are most common in the district. Principal among the non-poisonous snakes in the district are the Dhamana (*Ptyas mucosus*) and the Dhanda (*Natrix piscator*).

### Fish

A large variety of fresh water fish are found in tanks, water reservoirs and rivers intersecting the district. Marine fish swarm up the tidal rivers. The district having a long sea coast sea-fishing is an important industry which is still confined to the fore-shore.

A list of fresh water fish and marine fish found in the district is given below.

### Fresh water fish

Bhakur (*Catla-catla*), Rohi (*Labeo-rohita*), Mirkali (*Cirrhina mrigala*), Kalabainsi (*Labeo calbasu*), Pohala (*Cirrhina reba*), Ghusurimuha Pohala (*Labeo pangusia*), Raj Pohala (*Labeo bata*), Khurusa (*Labeo gonius*), Kerandi (*Barbus stigma*), Serna (*Barbus sarana*), Chitala (*Notopterus chitala*), Phali (*Notopterus*), Balia (*Wallago attu*), Magur (*Clarius batrachus*), Singhi (*Heteropneustis fossilis*), Adi (*Mystus aor*), Kantia (*Mystus cavasius*), Baikantia (*Mystus tengara*), Mohurali (*Amblypharyngodon mola*), Jallha (*Chela bacalla*), Dandikari (*Esomus danricus*), Bombi Todi (*Mastacembelus pancalus*), Todi (*Mastacembelus pancalus*), Chenga (*Ophicephalus*



*gachua marulus*), Sola (*Ophicephalus marulius*), Gardhei (*Ophicephalus punctatus*), Seula (*Ophicephalus striatus*), Kau (*Arbus niacandens*), Khosua (*Colisa chuna*) and Balikidi (*Gobio giuris*),

### Marine fish

Ilishi (Hilsa ilisha), Bhekti (*Lates calcarifer*), Khanda (*Chirocentrus dorab*), Phriki/Chandi (*Stromateus sp.*), Hunda Kantia (*Arius sp.*), Rudhakantia (*Osteogobius militaris*), Kantia (*Mystus sp.*), Khasala (*Mugil corsula mugilpersia*), Kora (*sp. polynemus tetedactyus*), Champa (*Samber spp.*), Gujikadma (*Sillago sihawa*), Sila (*Scienecoxor*), Sapua (*Trichiurus savala*), Paniakhia (*Megalops cyprinoides*), Khainga (*Mugil cephalus*), Bagda chinguri (*Penaeus carinatus*), Kantal Chinguri (*Penaeus indicus*) Telia, Tapsi, etc.

### Mortality from reptiles and wild animals

The wild animals, especially the reptiles claim fairly a large toll of human lives annually. Figures of mortality in the district from reptiles and wild animals during the period 1979—85 is given in Appendix I of the chapter.

### CLIMATE

The district lies between the Bay of Bengal and the north-eastern corner of the Deccan plateau. Its climate is characterised by lesser extremes of temperature and high humidities all the year round. The cold season from December to February is followed by the hot season from March to May. The period from June to September constitutes the south-west monsoon. The next two months form the post-monsoon season.

### Rainfall

Records of rainfall in the district are available for 11 stations for periods ranging from 43 to 81 years. The details of the rainfall at these stations and for the district as a whole are given in Appendix II of the chapter. The average annual rainfall in the district is 1583.3 mm. A decrease of rainfall is generally marked when one proceeds from the coastal region towards the interior. The Nilagiri-Soro region gets the highest annual rainfall. The south-west monsoon commences early in June and continues till the end of September. July is the month with the heaviest rainfall. The rainfall during

the south-west monsoon season accounts for 70 per cent of the annual rainfall. The variation in the annual rainfall in the district is not large. In the fifty years period from 1901 to 1950, the highest annual rainfall was received in 1917 when it amounted to 136 per cent of the normal. The very next year 1918 had the lowest annual rainfall which was 68 per cent of the normal. In the same fifty years period, there were only 6 years when the annual rainfall of the district was less than 80 per cent of the normal, none of them being consecutive years. But at some individual stations consecutive two or three years with rainfall less than 80 per cent of the normal have occurred on two or three occasions. At Soro during the whole of the nine years period from 1904 to 1912 the annual rainfall was less than 80 per cent of the normal. It may be seen from Appendix III that the annual rainfall in the district was between 1200 and 1700 mm. in 32 years out of 50 years.

On an average there are 77 rainy days (i.e., days with rainfall of 2.5 mm. or more) in a year in the district. This number varies from 71 at Bant to 84 at Raj Nilagiri.

The highest rainfall recorded in 24 hours at any station in the district was 514.6 mm. at Chandbali on 16th September 1879.

### Temperature

There are two meteorological observatories in the district—one at Balleshwar and the other at Chandbali. Their records extend to a long period of years. The data at these two stations may be taken as quite representative of the climatic conditions in the district as a whole, except that in the coastal strip temperatures are lower particularly in the hot season due to strong sea breeze. The period from March to May is one of steady rise in temperatures. May is usually the hottest part of the year when the mean daily maximum temperature is about  $36.4^{\circ}\text{C}$  and the mean daily minimum is about  $26.6^{\circ}\text{C}$ . In May and the early part of June before the onset of the south-west monsoon temperature may on some occasions go up to about  $46^{\circ}\text{C}$  and the weather becomes oppressive. With the onset of the monsoon there is an appreciable drop in day temperatures, while night temperatures continue to be as in the summer season. From October temperatures gradually decrease and by December, which is the coldest month, the mean daily maximum temperature is about  $26.9^{\circ}\text{C}$  and the mean daily minimum temperature is about  $14.1^{\circ}\text{C}$ . In the interior of the district the temperatures may be slightly lower. In association with the western disturbances the minimum temperature on a few occasions may go down to about  $7^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $8^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

The highest maximum temperatures ever recorded at Baleshwar and Chandbali was  $46.7^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the 30th May, 1895 and on the 12th June, 1942 respectively. The lowest minimum temperature recorded was  $6.7^{\circ}\text{C}$  at Baleshwar on the 3rd February, 1905 and 17th December, 1897 and  $7.7^{\circ}\text{C}$  at Chandbali on the 12th December, 1974.

### **Humidity**

Relative humidities are generally high about 70 per cent all the year round. But in the Winter season and in Summer they are slightly less than in the monsoon season.

### **Cloudiness**

Overcast to heavily clouded skies prevail during the monsoon season. The cloudiness is moderate with occasionally overcast skies in May and in October. In the rest of the year skies are mainly clear or lightly clouded.

### **Winds**

Winds are generally light to moderate in the post-monsoon and Winter seasons. In the Summer and south-west monsoon seasons winds are stronger. The winds in the coastal strip are generally stronger than in the interior. In the south-west monsoon season the direction of winds are mainly between south-east and south-west. In the northern part of the district winds in the post-monsoon and Winter seasons are predominantly northerly or north-westerly both in the mornings and afternoons but in the southern part they are northerly or north-westerly in the mornings and north-east and south-east in the afternoons.

### **Special weather phenomena**

The district is directly on the track of most of the cyclonic storms and depressions which form in the body of the Bay of Bengal in the monsoon season and cross the Orissa coast. These cause widespread heavy rain and strong winds. A few of the storms and depressions in the post-monsoon season also affect the district. Thunder-storms, sometimes violent, occur in the summer season and in October. Even during the monsoon season rainfall is often associated with thunder. The thunder-storms in the Summer season are occasionally accompanied with squall and hail. During the Winter season fog or mist occur particularly in the coastal region.

Appendice IV, V and VI give the temperature and humidity, mean wind speed, and frequency of special weather phenomena respectively for Baleshwar and Chandbali.

## APPENDIX I

**Death due to snake bite and attack of wild animals  
during the period 1979 to 1985**

Year	Death due to snake bite	Death due to attack of wild animals				Total
		Elephant	Tiger, leopard and others	Bear and wolves	Other wild animals	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1979	28	..	..	..	..	28
1980	28	..	..	..	..	28
1981	23	1	..	..	2	26
1982	17	1	सत्यमेव जयते	1	..	19
1983	7	..	..	..	..	7
1984	24	..	..	..	..	24
1985	22	..	..	..	..	22

APPENDIX II  
Normals and Extremes of Rainfall

Station	No. of years of data	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Chandbali	.. 22 a b	11.7 1.0	23.4 1.4	25.7 1.7	50.5 3.4	102.4 4.7	194.5 9.7	410.7 16.0	341.1 14.5
Akhuapada	.. 50 a b	12.9 1.0	26.4 1.8	23.1 1.9	61.0 3.1	100.1 6.3	216.4 11.4	344.2 15.3	309.5 15.3
Bhadrak	.. 48 a b	17.0 1.1	32.5 1.9	27.4 2.1	53.9 3.6	111.5 6.6	222.0 11.5	332.0 15.5	300.5 15.1
Soro	.. 49 a b	20.3 1.1	43.7 2.2	45.5 2.4	78.5 3.9	137.7 6.6	255.0 11.4	390.1 14.9	385.6 15.1
Baleshwar	.. 50 a b	19.1 1.2	38.6 2.3	42.2 2.6	50.3 3.8	93.5 5.4	211.8 11.1	315.5 14.3	309.4 14.7
Jaleswar	.. 50 a b	16.3 1.3	30.2 2.2	31.7 2.1	39.9 2.8	101.1 5.9	232.2 10.9	268.0 14.3	271.0 15.1
Baliapal	... 47 a b	15.0 1.1	34.5 2.1	28.2 2.0	40.4 2.7	107.2 5.6	232.4 10.7	295.4 14.3	286.8 14.5

(Contd.)

Station	No. of years of data	(2)	(11)	Septem-ber	October	Nove-mber	Dece-mber	Annual rainfall as % of normal and year*	(16)	(17)	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours*		(19)
											Amount (mm.)	Date	
(1)	(2)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)			
Chandbali	22 a b	264.2 12.7	210.6 8.6	65.3 2.0	8.4 0.5	1,708.6 76.2	137(1946)	59(1947)	514.6	1879, Sept., 16			
Akhuapada	50 a b	251.2 13.4	139.2 6.9	46.5 1.5	6.9 0.3	1,537.8 78.2	144(1917)	68(1908)	342.9	1941, July, 9			
Bhadrak	48 a b	234.7 12.0	147.6 6.7	40.9 1.3	5.1 0.5	1,525.1 77.9	173(1917)	66(1935)	428.7	1907, Aug., 20			
Soro	49 a b	305.8 13.2	228.3 7.2	46.5 1.7	6.9 0.4	1,943.9 80.1	186(1933)	48(1918)	479.3	1943, Aug., 1			
Baleshwar	50 a b	267.7 13.0	185.2 6.8	46.7 6.1	6.3 0.4	1,586.3 77.2	143(1913)	69(1911)	347.2	1940, July, 1			
Jaleswar	50 a b	205.0 11.9	140.7 6.2	34.5 1.5	3.3 0.4	1,373.9 74.6	156(1913)	64(1938)	393.7	1894, July, 23			
Baliapal	47 a b	244.3 12.7	179.8 6.5	38.3 1.4	5.3 0.4	1,507.6 74.0	155(1913)	69(1923)	371.6	1946, Oct., 18			

(Contd.)

Station	No. of years of data	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Basudebpur	47 a	15.2	32.0	34.8	71.4	119.4	206.8	312.4	302.3
	b	1.1	1.9	2.0	3.9	5.9	10.2	14.5	13.7
Turigaria	42 a	14.0	37.3	30.0	46.5	111.8	228.1	325.1	318.8
	b	0.9	1.9	2.3	2.7	6.8	11.2	15.1	16.2
Bant	45 a	16.8	25.9	29.5	42.4	86.9	205.5	290.1	284.7
	b	1.0	1.7	1.9	3.1	5.8	10.8	14.4	13.7
Raj-Nilagiri	40 a	21.8	39.9	34.3	69.1	118.1	239.5	347.7	337.8
	b	1.2	2.5	2.4	4.2	6.5	11.9	15.4	16.5
Baleshwar (District)	a	16.4	33.1	32.0	54.9	108.2	222.2	330.1	313.4
	b	1.1	1.9	2.1	3.4	6.0	11.0	14.9	14.9

(Contd.)

## GENERAL

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Station	No. of Years of data	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual	Highest annual rainfall as % of normal and year*	Lowest annual rainfall as % of normal and year**	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours*	
(1)	(2)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)
Basudebpur	47 a b	232.7 11.9	179.8 6.7	43.7 1.3	6.3 0.4	1556.8 73.5	147(1933)	49(1918)	261.6	1941, Aug., 9
Turigaria	42 a b	255.3 13.8	159.0 7.4	30.7 1.2	4.6 0.3	1561.2 79.8	153(1933)	60(1918)	254.0	1917, May., 3
Bonth	45 a b	221.0 11.2	115.1 5.8	39.6 1.0	25.1 0.3	1382.6 70.7	135(1933)	62(1908)	228.6	1915, Nov., 17
Raj-Nilagiri	40 a b	279.7 13.8	191.0 7.3	49.3 1.6	4.3 0.3	1732.5 83.6	146(1913)	76(1908)	317.3	1952, June., 26
Baleshwar (District)	a b	251.1 12.7	170.6 6.9	43.8 1.5	7.5 0.4	1583.3 76.8	136(1917)	68(1918)		

(Concl'd.)

(a) Normal rainfall in mm.

(b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm. or more)

\* Based on all available data upto 1960

\*\* Years given in brackets



## APPENDIX III

## Frequency of Annual Rainfall in the District (Data 1901—1950) \*

Range in mm. (1)	No. of years (2)	Range in mm. (3)	No. of years (4)
1001—1100	1	1601—1700	4
1101—1200	1	1701—1800	7
1201—1300	5	1801—1900	2
1301—1400	6	1901—2000	4
1401—1500	10	2001—2100	1
1501—1600	7	2101—2200	2

\* ( Data available for 50 years only )

APPENDIX IV

Normal temperature and relative humidity

Baleshwar

Month	Mean daily maximum Temperature °C	Mean daily minimum Temperature °C	Highest ever °C	Maximum recorded** (date)	Lowest ever °C	Minimum recorded** (date)	Relative Humidity	
							08:30 %	17:30* %
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
January	..	27.1	33.3	1958, Jan., 17	7.2	1934, Jan., 19	68	61
February	..	29.5	38.3	1934, Feb., 28	6.7	1905, Feb., 3	65	60
March	..	33.9	40.6	1955 Mar., 31	11.7	1927, Mar., 1	64	62
April	..	36.2	45.0	1872, Apr., 21	16.7	1905, Apr., 2	68	68
May	..	36.4	46.7	1895, May, 30	19.4	1893, May, 8	71	72
June	..	34.3	46.1	1926, June, 14	20.0	1900, June, 3	78	77
July	..	31.3	38.3	1897, July, 1	20.0	1913, July, 23	84	83
August	..	31.2	35.6	1955, Aug., 13	21.7	1933, Aug., 19	85	84
September	..	31.3	35.6	1922, Sept., 10	21.9	1965, Sept., 9	84	84
October	..	30.8	36.1	1925, Oct., 2	15.5	1966, Oct., 28	78	79
November	..	28.8	34.4	1896, Nov., 3	8.9	1892, Nov., 28	69	68
December	..	26.9	32.1	1975, Dec., 4	6.7	1897, Dec., 17	67	63
Annual	..	31.5	..	..	..	..	73	72

(Contd.)

## Chandbali

Month	Mean Daily Maximum Tempera- ture °C	Mean Daily Minimum Tempera- ture °C	Highest ever °C	Maximum recorded date	Lowest ever °C	Minimum recorded date	Relative humidity	
							08.30** %	17.30* %
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
January	..	27.0	14.8	37.4	1973, Jan., 2	1962, Jan., 4	76	62
February	..	29.9	17.5	39.3	1973, Feb., 19	1942, Feb., 7	76	58
March	..	33.9	21.6	40.9	1968, March., 29	1971, March, 3	75	57
April	..	36.4	25.0	43.3	1947, Apr., 26	1943, April, 6	71	64
May	..	36.4	26.6	44.4	1961, May, 22	1931, May, 8	72	68
June	..	34.3	26.3	46.7	1942, June, 12	1931, June, 15	79	75
July	..	31.4	25.7	42.8	1959, July, 29	1964, July, 11	84	83
August	..	31.3	25.9	35.9	1972, Aug., 1	1969, Aug., 24	84	83
September	..	31.5	25.7	37.7	1968, Sept., 10	1972, Sept., 27	83	82
October	..	30.8	23.6	35.6	1951, Oct., 20	1952, Oct., 28	82	79
November	..	28.8	18.4	33.9	1949, Nov., 28	1970, Nov., 29	77	67
December	..	26.9	14.7	32.8	1949, Dec., 2	1974, Dec., 12	76	64
Annual	..	31.5	22.1	..	..	..	78	70

\* Hours I. S. T.

\*\* Data updated up to 1976.

(Concl'd.)

## APPENDIX V

## Mean wind speed in km./hr.

## Baleshwar

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
4.0	5.5	8.5	11.8	13.5	10.6	10.3	8.8	6.2	4.4	3.8	3.7	7.6

(Contd.)



Chandballi

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
5.7	7.3	9.7	14.5	16.9	12.8	11.2	10.2	8.2	6.1	5.1	5.3	9.4

(Concl.)

APPENDIX VI  
Special Weather Phenomena  
Baleshwar

Mean No. of days with*	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Thunder	0.6	3	5	9	12	13	9	9	13	9	0.5	0.1	83
Hail	0	0	0.4	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.6
Dust-storm	0	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.8
Squall	0	0	0	0.1	0.1	0	0	0	0.1	0.4	0	0	0.7
Fog	0.4	1	0.9	0.1	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.1	2.6

No. of days 2 and above are given in whole numbers.

(Contd.)

Chandbali

Mean No. of days with*	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Thunder	0.2	2	1.6	5	7	10	8	7	10	7	1.0	0	59
Hail	0	0.1	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2
Dust-storm	0	0	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.1
Squall	0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.1	0	2
Fog	3	0.5	3	0.1	0.1	0	0	0	0.1	0.1	0.9	2	10

\*No. of days 2 and above are given in whole numbers.

(Concl.)

## CHAPTER II

### HISTORY

#### PREHISTORY

The state of Orissa may be divided into four major zones such as North, South, West and East and they have distinct physiographic features. The eastern zone is a coastal plain and the districts like Ganjam, Puri, Cuttack and Baleshwar may be taken as the areas of this zone. Due to the coastal geology, drainage, pedology and climatology the evidences of the remote past during the prehistoric period have been inadequately reported. However, the detailed micro-level surveys in the areas of the above mentioned districts have yielded some substantial evidence which support to establish the settlement, growth and distribution of early human cultures.

Basing on the geographic and geological conditions the district has been divided into—

- (a) The plain which includes the regions of Bhadrak and Baleshwar subdivisions; and
- (b) The hill which includes the Nilagiri subdivision.

#### Drainage and Deposition of Palaeo-relics

The district is traversed by three major drainage systems such as the Subarnarekha in the north, the Burhabalanga in the centre and the Baitarani in the south. The significant tributaries are the Jalaka, Kansbansa, Sona and Gangahara. The Sona mainly flows in the region of Nilagiri subdivision. Besides, there are several other small fluvial streams which are significant due to ancient pleistocene deposits. But due to deposits of deltaic alluvium the thin layers of calcareous sand and clays are very difficult to be distinguished. The blown sand drift along the coast of Orissa form sand hills which cover a considerable area from Puri to Baleshwar. It has been found that each range of sand hills mark an old sea coast and the sea has retired gradually and that the land has been raised at intervals and by interrupted movements. The raised beaches elevated above the present sea level contain molluscan shells of recent species. The gravel deposits of the rivers are associated with pleistocene evidence and cultural relics of early men. But the length of the rivers of the Burhabalanga flowing through the district of Baleshwar has been highly affected by recent alluvial and sandy deposits which pose a problem to examine the early deposits. But the study of the Burhabalanga at Baripada, Kamarpal, Mahulia and Pratappur in Mayurbhanj district shows that up to the sea the river deposited enormous quantity of silt from

remote past and as a result, a land mass was formed which was the bed of the sea during the tertiary times. Again the fluvial deposits are in rich association with palaeo-relics. The change in fluvial depositional compositions also indicate a change in cultural relic associations which evidently signify to justify the sequence of cultural morphology and gradual growth. Besides the deposits of the Subarnarekha upstreams towards the north of Baleshwar at Jamsola and Jharpokharia have been highly rich in association with pleistocene deposits and palaeo antiquities of prehistoric period.

### **Location of Mesolithic sites on the Drainage Burhabalanga near Baleshwar Subdivision**

#### **Kasaba**

The site is located four kilometres away from Baleshwar town on the Baleshwar-Jaleswar Road. The site has yielded a few microlithic raw materials of black chert and some ceramic relics of antiquity.

#### **Kantabania**

It is located on the right bank of the river Burhabalanga on the Baleshwar-Jaleswar Road. Prehistoric relics have not been discovered, but some fragments of palaeo ceramics have been found.

#### **Kathasangada**

The site is located on the confluence of the Burhabalanga and the Sona. The site has yielded a large number of unfinished microlithics of quartz, quartzite and chert along with some ceramic relics.

#### **Haladia**

The site is located on the left bank of the river Burhabalanga. It is richly associated with the distribution of ceramic materials. No prehistoric tool has been recovered.

### **Location of Neolithic site in Baleshwar Subdivision**

#### **Darada**

A neolithic axe was reported from Darada (Lat. 21°41' N., Long. 87°75'E.). The site is located in the Basta police-station of Baleshwar subdivision and 4 kilometres away from Basta-Baliapal road and to the east of Basta. The tool was recovered from a pit measuring 1'8288 metres (6 feet) below the surface. The site is filled with alluvial deposits. The sole implement could not be interpreted as a part of cultural concentration and may have been deposited through redeposition, transportation or secondary disposal.

### **Location of Mesolithic sites on the tributary Sona in the Nilagiri Subdivision**

#### **Balisahi**

The site is located on the left bank of the river Sona and five kilometres away from the Nilagiri town. The site has yielded the raw materials of quartzite, chert and a few ceramic fragments. The finished microlithic tools include blade and flakes.

#### **Tinidesh**

The site is one kilometre away from Balisahi near the fair-weather road which connects Baleshwar and Udala (in Mayurbhanj district). The site is associated with several ceramic relics.

#### **Kans**

The site is located on the left bank of the Sona. The surface is highly capped with silt deposition. No prehistoric tool could be located but the ceramic relics are sparsely distributed.

#### **Kolhapal**

The site is also located on the left bank of the river Sona. The chert stones are widely distributed in association with ceramic fragments.

#### **Ayodhya**

The site is located on the right bank of the river Sona. The surrounding region of the site has yielded a large number of ceramic fragments and microliths.

#### **Palaeolithic**

So far no prehistoric relic has been reported from the district. Bhadrak subdivision was completely free from such activity and the locality does not indicate any perspective for analysis due to substantial morphologic modification. The modifications are mainly for thick depositions of alluvial silts and marine actions. In the absence of any tangible evidence relating the lower palaeolithic culture in these localities, the probable cause may be accounted to habitational unsuitability during the middle pleistocene period. The problem remains unsettled until further works in the deltaic areas have been undertaken to investigate the details of palaeo-channel formations. The evidences might have been concealed under the sand-hill formations and any specific research made in this line in future will add to our knowledge about the lower palaeolithic complex in the district.



### Mesolithic

A few evidences of microliths consisting of scraper, blade and bladelets indicate that Baleshwar and Nilagiri areas were probably suitable for the folk of this culture. Again, mesolithic folk introduced completely a new technology and new types of raw materials. The raw materials particularly the fine-grained rocks of chert, milky quartz and quartzite are plentifully available in the hills of Nilagiri and pebbles in the river Burhabalanga. These tiny tools were hafted in bone or wooden handles to make knives, arrow heads, spear heads, sickles, etc. Besides, scrapers of various types, borers, burins, truncated flakes and corers are also found. In the earliest phase of mesolithic culture the blades tend to be longer, wider and thicker whereas the proportion of geometric microliths is smaller. With the passage of time the bladelets became smaller and more symmetrical and the corers displayed improved workmanship. An analysis of the recovered materials indicate that the culture was introduced to the locality at a very late phase. The presence of bladelets appropriately suggest that the culture made its expression in the localities as the people of the culture made their temporary migrations due to seasonal impact or in search of available resources. The problem of its representation and distribution could not be explained properly as they are based on scanty evidence.

### Neolithic

The sole evidence of a neolithic axe may be interpreted that the region of Baleshwar experienced the wave of neolithic culture. As the tool was ground and polished, probably at a later phase of the culture, the region experienced this cultural impact. It would be possible to reconstruct the culture on recovery of more materials from the area. But the minimal evidence suggests that the area dates back to remote antiquity from mesolithic to neolithic period.

### ANCIENT PERIOD

The name Baleshwar is not known from any epigraphic or historical sources of the ancient and mediaeval periods. According to local tradition, the term is derived from the word, Baneshwar, the famous *Sivalinga* of the town. Though phonetically such a corruption of the original word is possible, the authenticity of the tradition can hardly be vouchsafed from historical point of view. It is also surmised that Baleshwar is derived from the Persian words 'Bala O Shore', meaning thereby 'the fort on the sea'. However, it is certain that the modern district of Baleshwar was not a territorial unit in the ancient and mediaeval periods. It was included in different territorial units under different rulers at different periods.

### Territorial Extent

The greater part of Orissa in ancient time was known as Kalinga. The *Mahabharata* gives an idea about the northern boundary of the territory of ancient Kalinga. That the Ganges formed the northern boundary of Kalinga can be inferred from the stanza in which the sage Lomasa standing on the confluence of the Ganges and the sea, spoke to the Pandava brothers:

"This is the Land, O Kunti's Sons, where the Kalinga tribe dwell. Through it passeth the river Vaitarani".<sup>1</sup>

That Kalinga extended as far as the Ganges is corroborated by the writings of Meghasthenes<sup>2</sup> (4th century B. C.) and Pliny (1st quarter of the 1st century A. D.). Thus, the region of Baleshwar was included in ancient Kalinga which was conquered by Asoka in the third century B. C. and Kharavela in the first century B. C. It appears that after the fall of the Mahameghavahana dynasty, the empire of Kalinga began to shrink by the 4th century A. D.<sup>3</sup> and it was confined to South Orissa and a part of northern Andhra Pradesh<sup>4</sup>. Baleshwar was then a part of another territorial unit, i.e. Utkal. In the *Raghuvamsa* of Kalidasa, Utkal is mentioned as a territory to the north of Kalinga. It says that king Raghu, after crossing the river Kapisa (modern Kasani in the Midnapur district of West Bengal) entered Utkal and there the people showed him the path to Kalinga.

By the end of the 6th century A. D., some copper plate grants refer to Uttara-Tosali or Northern Tosali.<sup>5</sup> Utkal was then known as Tosali or Tosalia which was further divided into the northern and southern parts. The river Mahanadi appears to be the dividing line. The Bhaumakaras (A. D. 736—931) ruled over both the Tosalis. In the records of the Somavamsi kings the term Tosali has not been used. It was known only as Utkal. The term also occurred in the copper plate grants of the Gangas and denoted the whole of Orissa.<sup>6</sup> Thus, the region of Baleshwar was included in Tosali, more particularly Uttara Tosali, and then in Utkal.

It is now held that the present name 'Odisha' (anglicised Orissa) has been derived from Odra, a geographical unit in the past. The earliest reference to Odra is found in the Soro copper plates

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1. The Mahabharata Vanaparva, CXIV, 4.

2. Mc. Crindle, Ancient India as described in classical literature, p. 144.

3. Ibid, p. 137.

4. K. C. Panigrahi, History of Orissa, p. 5.

5. Soro Copper Plates of Maharaja Sambhuyasas (E. I. Vol. XXIII, pp. 197 ff.)  
Soro Copper Plates of Somadatta (E. I. Vol. XXIII, pp. 202-203)

6. K. C. Panigrahi, op. cit., p. 7.

of Somadatta in the first half of the 7th century A. D., in which it is referred as a *visaya* or district of Uttara Tosali. In Hiuen Tsang's account of Orissa, Odra or Wu-cha is mentioned as a kingdom which extended from Karnasuvarna in the north to Kangoda in the south. Thus, the whole of modern Baleshwar was included in that territorial unit and continued as such under the imperial Gangas and Somavamsis.

### Early History

With the victory of Asoka in the Kalinga War, the territories were annexed to the Magadhan empire. The new province was placed under a Viceroy bearing the designation of *Kumara*. Asoka paid special attention for its administration and divided it into two divisions with their headquarters at Tosali (northern division) and Somapa (southern division). As a part of the northern division, Baleshwar region enjoyed the benefits of the Mauryan administration. But no details are available about the Mauryan rule. In the first century B. C. Kalinga came under the powerful dynasty of the Mahameghavahanas. Kharavela, the third ruler of the dynasty, launched a career of conquest and aggrandisement and enhanced the glory of Kalinga. Baleshwar region had a share in it.

The discovery of the so called Puri-Kushana coins from different parts of Orissa has led some scholars to believe a period of Murunda supremacy over Orissa.<sup>1</sup> These copper coins were issued in imitation of the Kushana coin-types by the Murunda kings ruling over a part of Bihar and Orissa with their capital at Pataliputra. The Puri-Kushana coins have also been discovered from Baleshwar district. In 1912, the Collector of Baleshwar received about 910 such coins<sup>2</sup> and these are now preserved in the museum at Calcutta. Some coins also have been discovered at Baudpur near Bhadrak. It can, therefore, be presumed that Baleshwar region was probably under the Murunda rule.

The earliest inscription of the district is the stone inscription of Bhadrak<sup>3</sup> which reveals the name of the Maharaja Surasarma. Palaeographically this inscription belongs to the 3rd century A. D. It records the donation by a pious lady named Raughali to goddess Parnadevati by special arrangement with Mahakulapati Agnisarma in the 8th regnal year of Maharaja Surasarma. He was probably an independent ruler. From the inscription it is obvious that the presiding deity of the present Bhadrakali temple in Bhadrak was popular in the name of Parnadevati in the third century A. D.

1. Ancient India, No. 5, pp. 97 ff., Journal of Numismatic Society of India, XII, pp. 1-4.

2. Archaeological Survey of India, Annual Report, 1924-25, p. 130.

3. E. I., Vol. XXIX, p. 169 ff., Indian Historical Quarterly, Vol. XXXV, p. 327. This inscription is in the Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneswar.

In the 4th-5th century A. D., Maharaja Satrubhanja brought *Ubhaya-Tosali* as far as Tamralipti (Tamluk in the Midnapur district of West Bengal) under his political influence. The Asanpat Inscription<sup>1</sup> represents Satrubhanja as the most powerful ruler of his time who rose to prominence in Kendujhar region, and also extended his supremacy to the coastal region of Orissa. However, his supremacy over *Ubhaya-Tosali* in general and Baleshwar region in particular remained for a short period. It probably ended with his death. A hoard of 147 copper coins<sup>2</sup> has been discovered at the village of Nanduru near Gandibedha in the district. These coins bear on the reverse the legend *Sunandasya*. These coins belong to the 5th-6th century A. D. But the identification of Sunanda is a matter of controversy. He appears to be a local ruler who flourished after Maharaja Satrubhanja's expeditions.

The Jayarampur copper plate inscription<sup>3</sup> (discovered from Jayarampur village in Bhograi police-station) mentions one *Maharajadhiraja* Gopachandra ruling over an extensive area around Baleshwar. The copper plate, issued in his first regnal year, records the grant of the village, Svetavalika by Mahasamanta Maharaja Achuta (a vassal king of Gopachandra) for establishing a 'Vihara' in favour of god Arya Avalokitesvara. It is believed that Gopachandra belonged to the second quarter of the 6th century A. D.<sup>4</sup> There is no evidence to show that his supremacy or the glory of his dynasty lasted for a considerable period.

### The Manas

In the last quarter of the 6th century A. D. the Uttara-Tosali came under the Manas. The Soro copper plates of Sambhuyasas<sup>5</sup> and the Patiakela copper plates of Sivaraja<sup>6</sup> throw light on the rule of the Manas. The Soro copper plates were issued in the year 260 Gupta era, i.e., 580 A. D. and the Patiakela copper plates in 283 Gupta era, i.e., 603 A. D. Maharaja Sambhuyasas was perhaps the founder of the Mana rule in Uttara Tosali. Nothing is known about his ancestry. The Soro copper plates record the donation of eight *timpiras* of land as well as 200 units of homestead land in the Ghantakarnaksetra (within Sarephahara Visaya, i.e., Soro) in UttaraTosali to a Brahmana Bharanasvamin of the Bharadvaja *gotra*. The Patiakela copper plates, issued by his feudatory

1. Orissa Historical Research Journal, Vol. XIII, No. 2, pp. 1—8.

2. Orissa Historical Research Journal, Vol. V, pp. 157—159.

3. Ibid, Vol. XI, No. 4, pp. 206—233.

D. C. Sircar, *Select Inscriptions*, Vol. I (2nd ed.) pp. 530-31.

4. R. C. Majumdar, *History of Bengal*, Vol. I, p. 54.

5. E. I., Vol. XXXII, p. 201 ff.

6. E. I., Vol. IX, pp. 285—88.

Sivaraja indicates the occupation of southern Tosali by him. Sambhuyasas captured southern Tosali by 603 A. D. and appointed Sivaraja as its ruler.

Sambhuyasas was a ruler of considerable political importance. He succeeded in uniting both the Tosalis and styled himself as Paramabhattacharaka, Paramamahesvara, Maharaja and Paramadaivata. He was a liberal ruler with many virtues. Saivite by faith, his capital was at Viraja or Jajpur. As an invincible ruler he had defeated the Vighrahas of South Orissa. However, the Mana rule was short-lived. It was Pruthivi Maharaja of Durjaya family who put an end to the Mana rule in Tosali.<sup>1</sup>

### Sasanka and Harshavardhan

After the Mana rule, the coastal districts of Orissa came under Sasanka of Gauda. His conquest of Orissa can be inferred from the Midnapur copper plates of Subhakirtti, Midnapur copper plates of Somadatta and Ganjam copper plates of Sailodbhava ruler Madhavaraja II.<sup>2</sup> Subhakirtti was appointed by Sasanka as his Viceroy in Dandabhukti, the present Midnapur region of West Bengal, and the former issued the Midnapur copper plates in the 8th regnal year of his sovereign in order to donate some lands to Brahmins. His successor was Somadatta who issued the copper plates in the 19th regnal year of Sasanka who also donated some lands to one Bhattesvara. Somadatta also issued two other copper plates which were discovered from Soro.<sup>3</sup> Both the copper plates were issued in his 15th year from the victorious camps which clearly showed that he was busy in wars for his monarch, the details of which are difficult to know. In these copper plates, the titles of the sovereign mentioned are *Paramadaivata Shri Paramabhattacharaka* and perhaps they were used for Sasanka.

One Soro copper plate registers the gift of the village named Adayara in the Saraphahara *Visaya* situated in northern Tosali which formed a part of Odra *Visaya*. The other one records the gift of the village Vaheravataka in the Varakana *Visaya* which was contiguous to the Saraphahara *Visaya*. The earliest epigraphic reference to Odra is noticed here. The present Balেশwar district formed a major part of the same territorial unit Odra or Utkal or northern Tosali.

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1. The Paralakhemundi copper plates of Pruthivi Maharaja was issued from the victorious military camp at Virajanagar, S. N. Rajguru, *Inscriptions of Orissa*, Vol. I, part. II, pp. 54—56.
  2. *Inscriptions of Orissa*, Vol. I, part II, pp. 141—161.
  3. *Inscriptions of Orissa*, Vol. I, part II, pp. 136—140.

Somadatta, who ruled over Dandabhukti and Utkal on behalf of Sasanka, was succeeded by Mahapratihara Maharaja Mahasamanta Bhanudatta, known from his Soro,<sup>1</sup> Baleshwar<sup>2</sup> and Olasingh<sup>3</sup> copper plates issued in his 5th regnal year. In these inscriptions, his paramount sovereign Sasanka is mentioned as Paramabhattacharaka. The Soro copper plates were issued from a place called Viranja which is probably the corrupt form of Viraja, i.e., modern Jajpur. It stated that the village Vahirakataka, situated in Saraphahara *Visaya* was redonated to certain Brahmins. The Olasingh copper plates record his donation of lands to Maninagesvara at Ekambaka, i.e., Bhubaneshwar.

Most probably Sasanka exercised his authority over Utkal or Odra or northern Tosali till his death which occurred shortly before 637 A. D. Subhakirti, Somadatta and Bhanudatta served him as his Viceroys in Dandabhukti and Utkal and helped him in maintaining his authority over these areas. Soon after Sasanka's death, Harsavardhan conquered Utkal or Odra and Kangoda.<sup>4</sup> Thus Baleshwar region came under Harsa, but no record on his administrative arrangements in Utkal or Odra in general and Baleshwar region in particular has been discovered so far. However, it was during his reign the famous Chinese pilgrim Hiuen Tsang visited U-cha or Odra and has left a valuable account of his travels.

Hiuen Tsang reached Baleshwar by travelling south-west from Karnasuvarna in the year 639 A. D.<sup>5</sup> According to his accounts the people of this region were tall and yellowish black and their language differed from the languages of Central India. The majority of the people were Mahayana Buddhists. It is corroborated by the discovery of several Buddhist sites in the district. He also mentioned about a famous Buddhist monastery called Pu-si-po-ki-li or Puspagiri. But it is difficult to identify the place, bearing the same name in the district of Baleshwar.

### **Bhaumakaras**

The Bhaumakaras established their rule in Uttara Tosali in 736 A. D.<sup>6</sup> It is suggested by some scholars that Bhaumakaras belonged to Assam and they came to Orissa in the wake of the

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1. Inscriptions of Orissa, Vol. I, part II pp., 131-132.

2. Ibid., pp. 239-240.

3. Ibid., pp. 133-135.

4. The History and Culture of Indian People, R. C. Majumdar (ed.), Vol. III, p.107.

5. Yan Chawang's Travels in India, T. Watters, pp. 193 ff.

6. Chronology of the Bhaumakaras and Somavamsis of Orissa, K. C. Panigrahi, pp 66 ff.

Assamese king Harsavarmadeva's eastern expeditions. According to the Pasupati Temple inscription<sup>1</sup> he conquered Gauda, Odra, Kalinga and Kosala. Harsavarmadeva after conquering Odra appointed probably one of his relations named Ksemankaradeva as the ruler of the conquered territory who became the founder of a new ruling dynasty called the Bhaumakara dynasty.

The capital of the Bhaumakara kingdom was the Guhadeva-pataka or Guhesvarapataka which was very close to Viraja or Jajpur.<sup>2</sup> The early Bhaumakara copper plates were issued from that capital and naturally it is believed that the Bhaumakara kingdom was originally established around the capital or centring round Jajpur. It comprised the present district of Baleshwar and the northern part of Cuttack district as well. Subsequently, the kingdom was extended from the Dandabhukti *mandala* in the north-east to the Kangoda *mandala* in the south-west, both the *mandalas* being included in the kingdom.

The Neulpur grant of Subhakaradeva<sup>3</sup> records the donation of the villages Komparaka and Solanapura to the Brahmins. Komparaka has been identified with modern Kupari and Solanapura with Solampur, both in the Bhadrak subdivision of the present Baleshwar district where some ruins of ancient monuments are still visible. Large number of images were also available from those two historic sites.

It is believed that the early Bhaumakaras were Buddhists and during their rule the Mahayana became the dominant religion of Orissa. There are several sites in the district bearing the Buddhist antiquities belonging to the Bhaumakara period such as Kupari, Ayodhya, Khadipada, Solampur, Palia, Avana, etc.

### Somavamsis

The Bhaumakaras were replaced in Utkal by the Somavamsis in 931 A. D.<sup>4</sup> It is surmised that they came from South Kosala, i.e., the Sambalpur - Sonapur region of Orissa. Jajati I of the Somavamsi dynasty conquered the Bhaumakara kingdom and thereby united both Kosala and Utkal. Later on they shifted their capital to Jajpur which was then called *Avinava*

1. Indian Antiquary, Vol. IX, p. 179. and Early History of Kamarupa, K.L. Barua, p. 107.

2. Pandit Binayak Mishra in 'Orissa under the Bhauma kings, p. 81, identifies it with Sivadaspur where as K. C. Panigrahi in 'Chronology of the Bhaumakaras and Somavamsis of Orissa', p. 22, places it in Guhiritikiri; both the places being in the vicinity of Jajpur.

3. E. I., Vol. XV., pp.1-8.

4. History of Orissa, K. C. Panigrahi, p. 105.

*Jajatinagar*. Because of its close proximity to Jajpur, Balেশ্বর region again became an important and integral part of the Somavamsi kingdom.

The Somavamsis, like their predecessor, might have used Balেশ্বর as a base for their expeditions against Bengal. Jajati II was in arms against Gauda, but maintained friendly relation with the king of Vanga (East Bengal) in order to contain Gauda.<sup>1</sup> In the first quarter of the 11th century A. D. the Chola ruler, Rajendra Chola, led an expedition up to the Ganges by defeating the Somavamsi ruler Indraratha at Jajatinagar.<sup>2</sup> However, the Somavamsi rule did not end immediately after the expedition of Rajendra Chola. It continued till its last ruler, Karnadeva, was overthrown by the powerful Gangas.

However, towards the end of the Somavamsi rule, the Palas of Bengal probably occupied Balেশ্বর. In a literary reference, the commentary of *Ramacharita* of Sandhyakara Nandi, it was stated that Jayasimha, the able lieutenant of Ramapala, lifted the last Somavamsi king Karnakesari with his palm. It suggests the occupation of Dandabhukti, which was a part of Utkal, by the Pala ruler. He might have then snatched away its neighbouring Balেশ্বর region from the Somavamsis because for a long time Dandabhukti and Balেশ্বর were considered as one unit and remained under one administration. Infact, the last Somavamsi ruler, Karnakesari or Karnadeva, was a weak ruler and the power of the Somavamsis had declined considerably under his rule. He was not able to defend the northern part of his kingdom against the Palas. Jayasimha, referred earlier, was perhaps the Viceroy of the Pala ruler in Dandabhukti and Balেশ্বর. However, the Somavamsis were finally replaced by the powerful Gangas in early 12th century A. D.

### The Gangas

Anantavarman Chodagangadeva of the Eastern Ganga dynasty occupied Orissa in about 1110 A. D.<sup>3</sup> and founded the Ganga rule in Orissa. According to his Korni copper plates, he reinstated fallen lord of Utkal, i.e., Karnadeva. Probably the latter was helped to regain the lost territories of Dandabhukti and Balেশ্বর from the Palas of Bengal. However, Chodaganga finally ousted the Somavamsi ruler and himself occupied the kingdom.

1. Journal of Asiatic Society of Bengal, Letters, Vol. XIII, p. 72.

2. Tirumalani Inscription, E. I., Vol. IX, p. 232, K. A. N. Sastri, *Cholas*, pp. 948—949.

3. Orissa Historical Research Journal, Vol. I, pp. 7 ff.



As the Imperial Gangas started their career of conquest and expansion of territories, Baleshwar became the base of operations in the north. Chodagangadeva defeated the chief of Mandara and occupied his capital Aramya, modern Arambagh in the Hooghly district of West Bengal. With the rapid expansion of the Muslim power in North India in the 13th century A. D., Orissa was exposed to the menace in its northern frontier. The importance of Baleshwar region increased considerably as it occupied a strategic position in the Ganga empire. The rulers of Orissa realised the gravity of the situation and took certain effective steps to meet the challenge of the Muslim power. A chain of forts were built in the region of Baleshwar to ward off any possible expedition from the north. These forts were also used by the Gangas to launch attacks on the Muslim territory. Some of the copper plates of the Ganga rulers were issued from the one such important fort situated at Remuna Kataka.<sup>1</sup> It is ordinarily identified with the present village of Remuna, about 9.6 km., to the west of Baleshwar town. But some historians think it to be the present ruined fort at Raibania, about 14.4 km., north of Jaleshwar on the bank of river Subarnarekha.<sup>2</sup> John Beams, the District Magistrate of Baleshwar in the second half of the 19th century, had given a description of the ruined fort in *Indian Antiquary*.<sup>3</sup> There is no doubt that Raibania was a very important military establishment for the safety and security of the Orissan empire.

There are other forts in the northern parts of Baleshwar belonging to the Ganga period. One such fort is at Deulgan. The forts of Kahasin and Mandaran, which played a significant role in the Ganga-Muslim conflict, were not far from the border of the district. Besides, the Ganga ruler were very particular about the communication system in the frontier area for easy and quick transport of military forces. The Kendupatna copper plates of Narasimhadeva II<sup>4</sup> which was issued from Remuna-kataka refer to *Subarnarekhanadi Setu*. Probably there was some sort of bridge over Subarnarekha. It is further known from the above copper plates that Remuna was a *Visaya* or district and probably the administration of the frontier area was carried on from that headquarters.

In the conflict between the Ganga rulers of Orissa and the Muslim rulers of Bengal, Baleshwar became the base for military operations of the former. Narasimhadeva I, the greatest of the

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1. History of Orissa, H. Mahtab, Vol. I (Cuttack, 1959), pp. 243—45.

2. Ibid., p. 244.

3. Indian Antiquary, Vol. I. pp. 33—36, also see Appendix I of the Chapter.

4. Journal of Asiatic Society of Bengal, Vol. LXV, p. 254.

Gangas, led a successful campaign against Tughril-i-Tughan Khan of Bengal. Minhaj-i-Siraj, the Muslim historian, in his *Tabaquat-i-Nasir*, gives a vivid account of the success of the Imperial Ganga army against Tughan Khan. In consequence of the victory of Narasimhadeva I, the districts of Howrah, Hoogly, Bankura and Birbhum were added to the Ganga empire which was at the zenith of its glory and splendour. The annexed territories must have been controlled from Baleshwar. According to tradition, Narasimhadeva I built the original temple of Khirachora Gopinath at Remuna.

### The Suryavamsis

The Gangas were succeeded by the Suryavamsi Gajapatis in 1435 A. D. The first ruler of the dynasty, Gajapati Kapilendradeva (1435—1467 A. D.) led an expedition to Bengal and defeated Sultan Nasiruddin, and probably occupied some territories<sup>1</sup>. However, they could not maintain their hold over Bengal for long. The three Gajapati rulers—Kapilendradeva, Purusottamdeva and Prataparudradeva remained mostly engaged in their southern conquests and to some extent neglected the defence of the northern frontier of the empire. Because of lack of military preparedness on the part of Orissa, Hussain Shah, the Sultan of Bengal, could proceed unopposed as far as Puri. Of course, according to *Tabaqat-i-Akbari*, he conquered the country 'up to Orissa and levied tribute.'<sup>2</sup> At that time Prataparudradeva, the Gajapati of Orissa, was campaigning in the south. He rushed to Puri, defeated the invader and pushed him back to Bengal. However, he could not inflict any crushing defeat on him. Rather he withdrew his siege of the fort of Mandaran due to the treachery of one of his generals, Govinda Vidyadhara. He betrayed his master at the crucial war with the ruler of Bengal.

In 1510 A. D., Shri Chaitanyadeva passed through Baleshwar on his way to Puri from Bengal. By that time Jaleshwar, Remuna, Soro and Bhadrak were the major fiscal divisions in the district of Baleshwar<sup>3</sup>. According to the Garhpada copper plate grant<sup>4</sup> Gajapati Purusottamadeva (1467—1497 A. D.) donated the village Purusottamapur in Baleshwar district to one Potesvara Bhatta. However, by the beginning of 16th century A. D. the administration of this area was also neglected. Due to the long absence of the Suryavamsi rulers in the south, the local officers

1. The Gajapati Kings of Orissa, P. Mukherjee, p. 28.

2. *Tabaquat-i-Akbari*, Vol. III (Eng. Trans.), p. 443.

3. Op. Cit., P. Mukherjee, p. 127.

4. *Indian Antiquary*, Vol. I, p. 355.

had become insubordinate. There was the breakdown of law and order as evident from the accounts of *Chaitanya 'Bhagavata'*<sup>1</sup>. While Shri Chaitanya was crossing the frontier of Bengal and Orissa, an officer of Prataparudradeva took all possible care so that the saint and his followers might escape the molestation from the hands of the Muslims. The administrators also became corrupt. Gopinath Badajena, who was the Governor in the north-eastern *dandapata* of the Suryavamsi empire, misappropriated two lakhs *kahanas* of *cowries*. He was sentenced to death by Gajapati Prataparudradeva for the offence, but his life was saved due to the intervention of Shri Chaitanya<sup>2</sup>. It reveals the nature of Gajapati administration in general and the state of affairs which prevailed in the most sensitive part of the empire in particular.

With the death of Prataparudradeva, the glorious era in the history of Orissa came to an end. An epoch of intense fratricidal war and alien invasion from both ends of Orissa ensued and finally the Muslim powers dismembered and occupied the territories in 1568 A. D.

#### MUSLIM AND MARATHA PERIODS

The last Hindu king of Orissa, Mukundadeva, incurred the displeasure of Sulaiman Khan Karrani, the Afghan ruler of Bengal, because the former gave shelter to his enemy Ibrahim Sur and also had formed an alliance with the Mughal Emperor, Akbar, against him. Consequently, the Afghan ruler attacked Orissa and sent troops to Cuttack under the command of his son through the jungle route of Mayurbhanj and Kendujhar, while he himself met the Orissa Chief in the border at Kotsima. When that information reached Mukundadeva, he hurriedly sent two of his Commanders to protect Cuttack. But they revolted against his authority and thus started an internecine struggle in Orissa in which Mukundadeva was killed in 1568 A. D., and Orissa passed under the Afghan rule. It is believed that Mukundadeva fought his last battle at Gohiratikiri not far from Dhamnagar, in the district where he was killed by his own people.

In regard to the Afghan occupation of Orissa in 1568 A. D. the name of a notorious commander of Sulaiman Khan Karrani, Kalapahar, was associated. He goes down in the history of Orissa as a destroyer of temples and icons. Baleshwar is associated with the tombs of a number of his captains who fell in the battle. They are at Garhpada, Ramachandrapur and Remuna. Besides, it is believed that Kalapahar set up a number of Muslim settlements in the district and left behind some of his followers at Kasba, Bhadrak and Dhamnagar.

1. Chaitanya and His Companions, D. C. Sen, p. 9.

2. History of Orissa, R. D. Banerjee, Vol. I. pp., 332 ff.

Daud Khan, the second son of Sulaiman Khan Karrani, who succeeded governorship of Bengal, threw off all allegiance to the Emperor of Delhi and declared himself independent. In the struggle, Daud Khan was driven out of Bengal by the forces of Emperor Akbar under Munim Khan, and fled to Orissa. Raja Todar Mal came to Orissa in pursuit of Daud Khan who hovered backwards and forwards between Cuttack and Jaleshwar for some time. Finally, a decisive battle was fought at Tukaroi, 9.6 km., west of Jaleshwar on the bank of river Subarnarekha on the 3rd March, 1575. The Mughals became victorious, but suffered losses. Munim Khan himself was wounded. However, Daud Khan, who had fled to Cuttack, ultimately surrendered and negotiated for peace. On 12 April, 1575 Munim Khan settled the matter and left Daud Khan in possession of central Orissa as far as the river Baitarani but the areas of Baleshwar district came under the control of the Mughals as part of the Subah of Bengal and two officials were stationed at Bhadrak and Jaleshwar. But the matter reopened with the death of Munim Khan. In fact, Baleshwar, lying in between Cuttack and the frontier of Bengal became the central place of fighting between the rebel Afghans of Orissa and the Mughal forces, for some years and consequently suffered the most. Many places with Muslim names in various parts of the district testify to the settlement of Afghan and Mughal invaders.

In 1592 A. D., the Afghans were crushed in a battle fought on the northern bank of Subarnarekha by Raja Man Singh. The victorious Mughal army advanced towards Jaleshwar where coins were struck and Khutba was read in the name of Akbar. Thus, Orissa was finally annexed to the Mughal empire and the Subedar of Bengal remained in charge of the province. The first separate Subedar for Orissa was appointed in 1607 in the reign of Emperor Jahangir. However, Bengal, Bihar and Orissa formed one compact unit of the empire and the charge was held by a royal prince or a trusted man of the emperor.

With the Muslim occupation Baleshwar emerged from its former obscurity, and became the highway along which the rival armies passed and repassed and fought many battles. From that time began the rise of Baleshwar as a commercial town and a prosperous sea port to which flocked the vessels of many European powers including the British. The Mughals also maintained a naval base in the port of Baleshwar. A Mughal Faujdar was stationed at Remuna, not far from the town.

In the early part of 18th century A. D. Murshid Kuli Khan I got the Subedarship of Orissa and ruled over the province from 1703 to 1708 and then from 1714 to 1727. During the latter

period, his son-in-law Shuja-ud-din Muhammad Khan was his deputy in Orissa. The northern part of Orissa and especially the territories of Baleshwar are truncated for some administrative convenience during this period. The *chakla* of Midnapur was separated from the Subah of Orissa and it was annexed to Bengal. In the revenue settlement in Orissa enhancement of tax was made in the prosperous *sarkar* of Jaleshwar including Basta and Remuna. The ports of Baleshwar and Hijili were included in such settlement. Murshid Quli Khan was very particular to realise the dues from the ports, especially from the English Company which had thrived in Baleshwar at that time.

Further changes occurred in the border of Baleshwar during the administration of Shuja-ud-din Muhammad, the able successor of Murshid Quli Khan, who controlled the province from 1727 to 1739. He appointed his son Muhammad Taqui Khan as Naib Nazim of Orissa. During this period, the northern part of Jaleshwar *sarkar* beyond the river Subarnarekha except a few *mahals* were transferred to the administration of Bengal. Thus, the river Subarnarekha became the northern boundary of Orissa. Taqui Khan was fond of Baleshwar where he built the masonry tank and reservoir and the mosque and gardens known as Kadam Rasul. It was confirmed by a *sanad* issued by him in 1730. He is said to have constructed a hunting place at Remuna, 9.6 km. from Baleshwar town under the Nilagiri hills where there are extensive ruins of Muslim tombs and buildings.

With the change of power in Bengal by Alivardi Khan after the death of Shuja-ud-din in 1740, the possession of Orissa again became a disputed matter and the rival army devastated Baleshwar. A decisive battle was fought on 3rd March, 1741, at Phuladi in the suburb of Baleshwar in the highland in the middle of the Nunajori and Burhabalanga in between Alivardi Khan, the Nawab of Bengal, and Murshid Quli Khan II, the ruler of Orissa. Alivardi's position was difficult. Some of his soldiers left the field in desperation, leaving their master on the verge of defeat. However, some traitors in the camp of Murshid Quli Khan entered into a bargain with the Commander of Alivardi and changed side with sepoys under their control. Alivardi's General fought back bravely and finally Murshid Quli Khan lost the battle. He had wisely planned his escape in the event of defeat in the hands of the Nawab of Bengal. His merchant friend was then in the port of Baleshwar with his ship with some of his followers. He escaped in that ship immediately and sailed to Masulipatam. Thus, Alivardi got possession of Orissa and by the end of 1741 A. D. he had subdued his enemies completely. The whole of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa was under the control of Alivardi Khan.

However, Alivardi was not destined to rule in peace. From 1742 A. D. the Marathas rushed down upon Orissa and for long ten years Alivardi had to fight against them to maintain peace and order in his territories. Unfortunately, Baleshwar suffered most in the Maratha-Muslim conflict and several pitched battles were fought in this area which devastated the land and brought untold miseries to the people. When Alivardi failed to check the repeated Maratha onslaughts on Orissa, he signed a treaty for peace in 1751 which virtually placed Orissa in the hands of the Marathas. The river Subarnarekha was fixed as the line of demarcation between Orissa and Bengal. The Marathas, in lieu of Orissa, promised for regular payment of *chauth* and agreed not to set their foot again in the dominion of Alivardi Khan. Beyond the river Subarnarekha only a few *mahals* were retained by the Marathas.

Orissa remained under the Marathas from 1751 A. D. to 1803 A. D., when it came under the British rule. Under the Marathas, a strong military station under a Faujdar was maintained at Baleshwar which guarded the Phuladi *ghat*, the northern entrance to the town. Another important military station in the district was at Soro. The Faujdar of Baleshwar exercised power over a large area, collect revenue from the tributary states of Nilagiri and Mayurbhanj and remitted it to Cuttack. He also checked the disturbances in the border. The British also maintained a Resident in their factory at Baleshwar. There was occasional friction between the British Resident and the Maratha Faujdar regarding the payment of duties, smuggling of salt, harassment to merchants, etc.. One such case was brought to the notice of Lord Cornwallis, the Governor-General in 1792 by Wilkinson, the British Resident, against Bhabani Das Chaudhury, the Faujdar of Baleshwar. Lord Cornwallis informed Raghuji Bhonsla to take necessary steps for immediate removal of his Faujdar at Baleshwar<sup>1</sup>. Rajaram Pandit, the Maratha ruler of Orissa, enquired into the matter and the offender was removed. Murari Pandit became the new Faujdar of Baleshwar and he was in office when Orissa including the port and the district of Baleshwar was occupied by the British in 1803.

Another problem which created occasional Anglo-Maratha conflict was the boundary line between Bengal and Orissa. Though the river Subarnarekha was considered as the demarcating line, some of the zamindars of the border villages and *parganas* did not give up the lands on one or other side of the river and collected revenues from the people. Both the zamindars and the people in the border of Baleshwar created problems occasionally and took shelter on either side to evade payment. The problem lingered on till the British occupation of Orissa.

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1. Orissa under the Marathas, Dr. B. C. Ray, p. 62.

## BRITISH PERIOD

**British occupation of Balleshwar and early administration (1803—1827 A. D.)**

The British contact with Orissa began in the first half of the 17th century A. D. "True to our national character", Hunter remarks, "We settled in Orissa as merchants long before we made our appearance as rulers". One of the earliest British factories in India was established at Hariharpur, in Orissa in 1633. Soon after two other factories were established, one at Balleshwar on river Burabalanga and the other at Pipili on river Subarnarekha. "These two Orissa harbours", writes Hunter, "Formed the basis of our future greatness in Bengal"<sup>1</sup>. The British factory at Balleshwar developed into a thriving centre of maritime trade. In 1670, of several factories in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, Balleshwar was the seat of their chief and his council. The pre-eminence of Balleshwar as a commercial centre continued for some years. It declined in the 18th century when the East India Company's trading concerns were shifted to Hugli and Calcutta<sup>2</sup>.

Orissa came within the orbit of the East India Company's political interest after the Battle of Buxar. On 12 August, 1765 Lord Clive got the *dewani* of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa. 'Orissa' of the said grant was nothing more than a single district of Midnapore and northern Balleshwar. The titular Mughal Emperor used the term 'Bengal, Bihar and Orissa' as those areas had long been considered as one administrative unit in the days of the Great Mughals. From Clive to Cornwallis, the Company had tried to get possession of Orissa by negotiation, but failed. It was left to Lord Wellesley to conquer Orissa during the Second Maratha War. The British occupation of the province in 1803 was an easy task for two reasons. First, the Raja of Nagpur had no adequate troops in Orissa to resist the British army and in fact, only a feeble resistance was given to the enemy at the time of occupation. Secondly, the British army had acquired sound knowledge on the topography of Orissa during their march through its territory on the two previous occasions under the command of Col. Pearse in 1781 and Col. Cockrell in 1790.

In spite of weak position of the Marathas in the province, the British authorities made thorough preparation for war and annexation of Orissa. The principal army for the expedition was ordered to assemble at Ganjam under the command of Lt. Col. Campbell. Besides, Lord Wellesley also decided to send troops under Captain

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1. Orissa, W. W. Hunter, Vol. II, p. 39.

2. See Appendix-II of the Chapter 'European Settlements in Balasore district'

Morgan to occupy Baleshwar from the north. Another detachment was formed at Jaleshwar in the northern border of the province under Lt. Col. Fergusson for advancing into Orissa after the occupation of Baleshwar. Col. Fenwick, incharge of the troops at Midnapore, was ordered to occupy the Maratha zamindaries, north-east of river Subarnarekha.

The main British army under Lt. Col. Campbell began its March on 8th September 1803 but only three days after Campbell was replaced by Lt. Col. Harcourt due to former's illness. Harcourt was accompanied by a civil officer, John Melville, for organising civil administration after occupation of the province. They succeeded in capturing the Barabati Fort, the citadel of Maratha power in Orissa, on 14th October 1803. In the meanwhile, the campaign of Captain Morgan at Baleshwar was also equally successful. On 20th September 1803, four small British vessels including the gun-vessel crossed the bar at the mouth of river Burhabalanga and anchored opposite Balaramgarhi, a small Maratha post. The Maratha troops did not offer any resistance to the British on the spot but fled away from the post, thus allowing the British army to proceed towards the town of Baleshwar unopposed. With the help of local pilots, the British vessels sailed up the river, but due to heavy rains the progress was slow. Captain Morgan, on hearing a rumour that the Marathas were returning to oppose the movement of the British troops, left the heavy vessels and proceeded with two light canons and 300 soldiers in small boats. The party landed near the town and marched to occupy the Maratha Fort at Baleshwar. The troops moved on against a feeble resistance offered by the Marathas and finally reached the British factory in the town at night on 21st September, 1803. Murari Pandit, the Maratha Faujdar at Baleshwar, was not prepared for any serious encounter with the British troops. Infact, after the arrival of the British force in the town the Marathas lost courage and fled away from the fort during that night. Thus Captain Morgan occupied the place without any resistance on 22nd September, 1803. He strengthened the British position at Baleshwar and posted his troops outside the town to ward off the Maratha attack. A week later he sent two companies of troops under Lt. Slye to drive out the Maratha force assembling near Soro and to open communication with Cuttack. Further reinforcement was sent to him and the combined troops succeeded in occupying Soro after defeating a large contingent of Maratha army on 3rd October, 1803. The Marathas scattered away towards Bhadrak and they could not muster sufficient strength again to give resistance to the British in the district.



Col. Fergusson marched from Jaleswhar soon after the occupation of Baleshwar and reached there on 4th October. As directed by the authorities he continued to march and was supposed to join with the army under the command of Harcourt at Cuttack. But before he could do so, the fort of Barabati was seized and the campaign in the coastal Orissa almost came to an end.

A small operation was needed to conquer the territories on the north-east of river Subarnarekha comprising the Maratha Zamindaries of Pataspur, Kamarda, Bhograi, Shah Bandar, Jamukonda, etc. Col. Fenwick, who headed the reserve force at Midnapore, undertook the task of bringing those border zamindars under the British control. Some of them submitted without resistance, others were forced to surrender when the British troops marched on their territories.

By the Treaty of Deogaon, signed on 17th December, 1803, Raghujī Bhonsla ceded to the East India Company in perpetual sovereignty, the province of Cuttack, including 'the port and district of Balasore'. Thus, the district of Baleshwar came under the British administration.

Soon after signing the Treaty of Deogaon, Lt. Col. Harcourt and Melville, the Commissioners for settling the affairs of Cuttack gave their attention to the organization of civil administration. Captain Morgan remained in-charge of the district of Baleshwar, at first as the officer commanding at Baleshwar, but subsequently as Collector, Magistrate, and Salt and Customs Agent. Under him there were four native *amils* or Collectors of revenue at Baleshwar, Soro, Bhadrak and Dolgram. In 1804, the newly acquired territories of Orissa were divided into two divisions, the northern and southern, with the river Mahanadi as the boundary between them. For each division, a British officer was appointed as the Judge, Magistrate and Collector. He shouldered all administrative responsibilities in his division under the direction of the Special Commissioners. Captain Morgan made over charge to Robert Ker, who was designated as the Collector and Magistrate of the northern division of Cuttack. Such an arrangement continued for about a year when some regulations were promulgated for organizing civil administration on a more lasting basis. The offices of the Special Commissioners were abolished and the superintendence of the revenue affairs of Orissa passed to the Board of Revenue at Fort William in Calcutta.

In 1805, George Webb was appointed as the Collector of the entire British territories in Orissa, or as it was called the province of Cuttack. For the next 24 years this arrangement continued

with its headquarters at Puri up to 1816 and then at Cuttack. From 1805 to 1820, Baleshwar had no separate revenue officer; but in 1821 a Joint Magistrate was stationed at Baleshwar, his duties being chiefly the trial of criminal cases and the superintendence of police. In 1828, Baleshwar was constituted an independent collectorate and the first occupant of the office was Henry Ricketts. At first Jajpur and Bhadrak were attached to it, Jajpur being subsequently transferred to Cuttack district. On the north, a perplexing district series of transfers and re-transfers of Parganas went on for a long time between Baleshwar and Midnapore. The district finally acquired its present dimension in 1870, when the northern boundary was defined, and Baitarani and Dhamra rivers were made the southern limit of the district.

The first important British regulation, which formed the basis of land revenue policy in Orissa, was the Regulation 12 of 1805. Following the Bengal pattern, the regulation provided for short-term settlements of eleven years, at the end of which it was intended to introduce a permanent land revenue settlement. But the short-settlements continued for long 32 years when the Government finally decided to fix it for thirty years by Act VI of 1837. The question of a permanent settlement in Orissa was finally rejected and a long-term settlement for 30 years was enforced. The decision has an important step in the history of land revenue policy and administration of the British in Orissa. However, it had preceded with an unusual experiment of long 32 years of short settlements causing immense hardship both to the people and land-holders in coastal Orissa. Baleshwar suffered like the rest of the province due to the shortcomings of the British land revenue policy.

As regards the administration of justice and police, Cornwallis system was fully introduced in Orissa in September, 1805. The new regulation provided for the establishment of *thanas* or police-stations and appointment of *darogas* in-charge of police-station. The court of Sadar Nizamat Adalat acted as the highest court of appeal for dispensation of criminal justice and it also supervised the police administration. The court of Sadar Dewani Adalat supervised the administration of civil justice. Each police-station controlled a number of villages covering an area of about 919.42 sq. km. The district had initially only five police-stations; viz., Basta, Baleshwar, Mutto, Soro and Bhadrak and on an average each *thana* controlled about 614 villages<sup>1</sup>.

The British conquest of Orissa was closely followed by the extension of salt monopoly, in the first instance, to the northern division of Cuttack, i.e., from river Subarnarekha to river Mahanadi.

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1. Orissa under the East India Company, K. M. Patra, New Delhi. 1970,

The British conquest of Orissa was closely followed by the extension of salt monopoly, in the first instance, to the northern division of Cuttack, i.e., from river Subarnarekha to river Mahanadi. The British Regulation of 1804 reserved to the Government the exclusive privilege of manufacturing salt as a source of public revenue. In 1806 James King took over the charge as the first Salt Agent of Orissa with his headquarters at Baleshwar. By the Regulation 22 of 1814, the salt monopoly was extended to the southern part of the coastal tract of Orissa. The sale price was fixed at two rupees per maund \* in the Golas or store-houses of the Government but the merchants must have sold it at a much higher rate to the people by adding the cost of transport and their profits. Naturally it caused much hardship to the people who never paid so high a price for purchasing salt and thus it was a cause of their dissatisfaction against the British rule.

The northern division contained 8 *aurang* (manufacturing centres), such as, Bolang, Sartha, Dasmolang, Panchmolang, Ankura, Chudamani, Dhamra and Chardia. The salt agency was capable of producing more than 4 lakh maunds of salt in one season. The salt workers *malangis* were paid at the rate of 40 rupees only per 100 maunds of salt. They were further required to give 15 maunds of extra salt for payment of zamindar's revenue and for *suktee* charges i.e. for loss of weight due to evaporation of water from salt. Besides the fixed rate, at times the *malangis* were paid 2 annas (Rs.0.12) extra per maund in order to increase its manufacture to the utmost extent. There were 4 sale *Golas* situated in the central places like Baleshwar, Soro, Bhadrak and Basta to supply the article to the people. The rate was Rs. 2.3.6 (Rs.2.22) per maund, 3 and half annas (Rs. 0.22) being the cost of transportation from the *aurangs* to the sale *Golas*. The estimated sale of *panga* salt in this division was on an average 1,20,000 maunds per year. Large amount of salt was exported from the division to the Government sale *Gola* at Sulkia near Calcutta. In 1825 the estimated quantity of salt to be sent to Calcutta was 3,25,000 maunds. At Sulkia salt was disposed of by auction sales in limited lots to the merchants. Naturally the price fluctuated throughout the year and as determined by the needs of the merchants. In April 1825, the sale price was Rs.411-8-0 (Rs.411.50) per 100 maunds of salt. Thus, Baleshwar *panga* salt earned a lot of profit for the Company in the early days of the British rule in Orissa.

The commercial prosperity of Orissa had gradually dwindled and by the end of the 18th century A.D., it was at its lowest ebb. However, when the British occupied the province in 1803, considerable quantities of rice and salt were still exported from the ports of

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1. \* maund—37.3242 kg.

Baleshwar, Chudamani and Dhamra. Soon after the occupation, the British authority adopted certain rules for management of the ports and for collection of custom duties from these ports of Baleshwar. Though the fame of Baleshwar as a great sea port had faded away, yet the halo was somewhat maintained by the British Government. The custom house for the province was located at Baleshwar, and it was still the principal port of the province. The Government had no provision for the collection of customs in other parts of the province. Obviously, the largest volume of trade passed through the ports and custom house of Baleshwar. It was the salt trade and the export of excess agricultural products like paddy and rice which maintained the maritime activities of the people.

By the rules adopted on 4th May, 1804, it was provided that only a single duty was to be imposed on the import of goods from any foreign country either by sea or land. After the payment of that duty, the merchant could carry his goods to whatever part of the province he felt most conducive to his interest without any hindrance by the authorities. Goods of every description, except a few articles, imported by sea from Bengal or any other part of the British India, accompanied with a '*rowanah*' were required to pay a duty of 2.5 per cent on the valuation specified therein. Goods, not accompanied with a '*rowanah*' were required to pay the duty as specified in the Book of Rates. Some articles like wheat, rice, bullocks, agricultural implements, images intended for religious purposes, etc., were exempted from duty on being imported or exported either by sea or land. However, it was required that the quantity or number and value must be reported to the Darogah of the *chowkeys*. The imports or exports of canon, gun powder and weapons into or from the province were strictly prohibited. As a check against smuggling, it was provided that goods attempted to be smuggled into or from the province by sea or land would be subject to confiscation. The import and export duties were regulated from England obviously to favour British manufacturers as much as possible. The transit duties were levied on all goods manufactured in the country or imported by land into the British possessions. Initially the goods were made to pay a separate duty at each of the custom houses they passed and naturally when they reached the consumer, they were taxed with high duties according to the length of the journey. In 1810 such a system was abolished by a new regulation. Besides the central custom house at Baleshwar, 8 *chowkeys* were established at different places around it. They were (i) Baliapal, (ii) Rajghat, (i') Remuna, (iv) Balaramgarhi (v) Bangreah, (vi) Phuladi, (vii) Chudamani and (viii) Dhamra. Thus, the *chowkeys* were stretched from Baliapal on the bank of river Subarnarekha in the north to Dhamra on the

bank of river Dhamra in the south. All those *chowkeys* were situated in the district of Baleshwar. No provision was made for the collection of customs in the districts of Cuttack or Puri. This was probably due to the fact that the maximum volume of trade passed through the principal port at Baleshwar and other smaller ports in the district.

From the statement of the collections from customs duties in Baleshwar for four years from 1825 to 1829, it was found that the total amount collected was Rs. 60,670 and 5 annas (Rs. 60,670·31) and the total expense incurred was Rs. 25,301 and 3 annas (Rs. 25, 301·19). Thus the net proceeds during those years amounted to Rs. 35,369 and 2 annas (Rs. 35,369·12) with an average of Rs.8,842 and 4 annas (Rs.8,842·25) per year. In fact, it was observed that the net collections rapidly declined. Further, the greater portion of the duties was collected in transit of goods at the inland *chowkeys*. It is evident from the fact that out of the total collections of Rs. 60,670 and 5 annas (Rs.60,670·31) from 1825 to 1829, only Rs. 4,937 and 8 annas (Rs. 4,937·50) were collected at the sea ports and the rest of the amount was collected at the inland *chowkeys*<sup>1</sup>. The main cause of decrease in the collection of duties was the gradual decline in the volume of trade that passed through Baleshwar custom house. In 1825 the Collector of Customs reported to the Board of Customs, Salt and Opium that the decline was mainly perceptible in the trade of cotton goods. It was noticed that large quantities of cloth were being imported from Europe and sold at cheap rates in the market. The people generally preferred cheap foreign goods to costly indigenous products. In this connection, Andrew Stirling, a British officer who had worked in Orissa wrote in 1829 that "The manufacturers and trade of Orissa proper are very inconsiderable and unimportant. A sufficiency of the coarser cloths is made for the use of the inhabitants in all parts of the district. The calicoes of Balasore, Soro, Bhadrak, Janjipur (Jajpur) and Hariharpur, were once much prized and sought after under the name of Sannahas, but the demand for the finer fabrics of that description having long since greatly declined the quantity now manufactured is very trifling<sup>1</sup>.

In November 1827, the Collector of Government Customs at Baleshwar also observed that "the trade here is so trifling and the merchants and people in general so poor that few if any articles of the first quality are ever brought here for sale".

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1. Balasore Custom House Records, Acc. No. 586, Collection of Government Customs to Secretary to Board of Customs, Salt and Opium, 13 Aug. 1829.

There were certain grave errors in the early British administration concerning the land revenue policy, currency system, justice and police, the operation of salt monopoly, etc. These drawbacks naturally enraged the feelings of the people to such an extent that it led to the sudden outbreak of a popular revolt in Khordha and certain other areas of Orissa. The Revolt of 1817 goes down in history as the first direct challenge of the people of Orissa against the alien ruler. It brought home to higher authorities the necessity of making enquiries into the defects of their early administration. In the light of the reports submitted by Walter Ewer and the local officers, the British authorities introduced certain administrative reforms after the suppression of the revolt.

A significant change in the administrative set up in Orissa was introduced by the Regulation 5 of 1818. It created the new office of "Commissioner in Cuttack which continued as the principal office in the administration of Orissa for more than a century. The Commissioner was vested with all the powers and functions of the circuit court for the province. By the Regulation 1 of 1829 the officer was known as the Divisional Commissioner of Revenue and Circuit. It may be mentioned here that the Presidency of Bengal was divided into 20 divisions and Orissa formed the 19th division of the presidency. Further, in 1828 the Governor-General in Council resolved to divide the province into three distinct divisions or districts, such as, Puri, Cuttack and Balleshwar. Throughout the 19th century, these three coastal districts and a number of *garhjats* constituted British Orissa and were administered from the divisional headquarters at Cuttack.

### **British Administrative policies and their effects : 1828—1900**

Within a few years of the Revolt of 1817, the Government introduced a decisive change in its land revenue policy. The Cornwallis system was abandoned and after prolonged discussions it was decided to establish the *mahalwari* system of settlements in the 'ceded and conquered province' including Orissa. It was so called because the settlement of revenue came finally to be concluded on behalf of a *mahal*. Although the Government did not technically adopt the *rayatwari* settlement, the provisions for a thorough enquiry and survey imparted to the new system known as *mahalwari*, the characteristics of rayatwari system.

The progress of settlement was very slow in the initial period as the regulation strictly required that all enquiries should be on the spot and that too, only by European officers. In those days there was only one European officer (the District Collector) in

the district of Baleshwar. Naturally, by 1831 only one estate in Baleshwar was settled. In 1833 Lord William Bentinck, the Governor-General, decided to overhaul the whole system. He formulated certain principles and finally a new plan of settlement was evolved. It was embodied in the Regulation of 1833, and a circular was issued to all Commissioners to expedite survey and settlement proceedings. In fact, a number of Indian Deputy Collectors were appointed to assist the European officers in their work.

The survey and settlement operations commenced in right earnest according to the new regulation. The Collectors were assisted by some Indian Deputy Collectors in three districts of Orissa. The Government appointed a special Deputy Collector to investigate into the title of the people to hold rent-free tenures. In Orissa such rent-free tenures were numerous, nearly equal in value to two-third of the total land revenue. The Board of Revenue decided that the investigation of all claims to hold land in rent-free tenures was to be conducted simultaneously with and must form a component part of the settlement.

Under the able guidance of the Commissioners like Henry Ricketts and A. J. M. Mills, the settlement operation progressed rapidly. In 1839-40, there were 14 Deputy Collectors in the district of Baleshwar who were engaged in the settlement operations and were also trying resumption cases. The work was almost completed by 1844. As regards the term of the settlement, the Government decided to fix it for thirty years. The decision was enacted by Act VI of 1837. Thus, a long-term settlement was finally enforced in the province from 1837-38 though the work was completed by 1844-45.

The success of the settlement of 1837 was obvious from the small number of estates held *khas* or directly by the Government and farmed out in consequence of the recusancy of the Zamindars. In the district, there were 922 *mahals* on the rent-roll, out of which only 6 *mahals* were held *khas* and 10 *mahals* were farmed out in consequence of recusancy of proprietors<sup>1</sup>. Mills finally observed that "the execution of this great work is, with all its imperfection a blessing, and the extension of it to thirty years, the greatest blessing which Government has conferred on this province." Henry Ricketts, who visited the district in 1853 as a member of the Board of Revenue, stated in his report that due to the long-term settlement, the value of property had trebled, and cultivation has spread in the district. But remissions commensurate with the

1. Selections from the records of the Government, Bengal, 1847, Minute of A.J.M. Mills, 23rd January, 1847.

losses had not been granted in time of calamities. On the whole, incidence of the settlement on the people was lighter in Balasowar than that of Cuttack<sup>1</sup>. Ricketts drew the attention of the Government to the problem of remission of revenue in time of natural calamities. He believed that the very stability of the settlement was in danger on account of indifference towards such calamities. But the Government failed to take notice of the gravity of the problem and it caused immense sufferings to the poor cultivators who did not get any liberal remission from their zamindars in time of natural calamities which frequently occurred in Orissa.

The worst calamity that the people of Orissa suffered in the 19th century was the famine of 1866. It was a disaster which took away one-third of her entire population. The disastrous famine of 1866 had its origin in the severe drought of 1865. The rainfall ceased prematurely and that caused the failure of the winter crop on which the people of Orissa depended very much for their annual production of rice. The outturn was calculated at less than a third of the average crop. The thirty years' settlement was just coming to an end. The Government believed that there was tendency not to cultivate all assessable and culturable areas. There was, no doubt, uncertainty in the minds of different classes for ensuing settlement due to apprehension of enhancement of revenue. Consequently, full production of rice was not undertaken. Besides, the export of rice from Orissa was considerable and in every season the surplus stock was sold away. On an average 20,000 tonnes of rice were exported annually in the preceding six years and naturally the stock of rice in the province had depleted considerably. For about twenty years, Orissa had not suffered from any serious seasonal calamity and probably the people were complacent about the state of things. There was also scope for them to raise an alarm about the impending disaster in the press or platform. While such a state of affairs prevailed, unfortunately the administration of Orissa was headed by an officer T. E. Ravenshaw, who had no previous knowledge of the province. He took charge of the office of the Commissioner in July 1865. He had more experience elsewhere as a magistrate than a revenue officer. The Collectors of Cuttack and Balasowar were also new to their assignments. They had no experience of dealing with serious famine. Therefore the Government took a very complacent view of the situation at the initial stage of the famine. No local enquiry was conducted to ascertain the actual condition of the people after the failure of the winter crop. "There is, no doubt," Ravenshaw believed in October 1865, "plenty of grain in the country and

1. Selections from the Records of the Government, Bengal, 1853, Report of the district of Balasore, Henry Ricketts.



I am confident that sooner or later it will find its way into the market. I have impressed on all who have applied to me the necessity of patience and entire non-interference with the natural course of trade, as the demand will certainly regulate the supply eventually<sup>1</sup>.

Orissa always exported rice. The traders were not aware of the critical situation in the province and naturally never took the initiative to import rice to Orissa. Sufferings of the people increased day by day. Baleshwar like Puri and Cuttack presented terrible famine scenes. The public works were rendered inoperative due to cash payment. The distressed people did not like to work because their wages would not fetch them rice to feed their families. On 17 February 1866, Sir Cecil Beadon, the Lieutenant-Governor, who visited Orissa, held a *darbar* at Cuttack to receive the local tributary chiefs, and zamindars. In his *darbar* speech, he explained that the government could never interfere with prices. "If I were to attempt to do this, I should consider myself no better than a dacoit or thief". Such a statement by Lieutenant-Governor seemed to have been taken by every one as a final exposition of the policy of Government regarding the import of rice to the provinces. This was, no doubt, a dogmatic *laissez faire* approach and official complacency to the whole problem which ultimately created havoc in the province. An opportunity to ascertain the truth for adopting timely measures to save the distressed people was lost. Orissa was doomed to suffer heavily in the impending calamity.

In the month of June 1866, the government realised the gravity of the situation and authorised the Commissioner to import rice to Orissa. But the monsoon had commenced and it rendered the importation of rice and conveying it to the interior extremely difficult. Thus, when it was decided to rescue the people from starvation and to save their lives it was much too late. The mortality was highest during the rainy season from July to September. In August heavy rain and storms caused high flood and large extent of territories were submerged in flood waters. The Famine Commissioners observed: "The people, shut up in a narrow province between pathless jungles and an impracticable sea, were in the condition of passengers in a ship without provisions". Consequently, they were destined to die and they died in very large numbers.

Fakir Mohan Senapati, one of the foremost litterateur of Orissa and a native of Baleshwar gives a vivid picture of the tragic scene in his autobiography. Fakir Mohan was then the headmaster of the

1. Report of Famine Commissioners, Vol. I, P. 30

Mission School in Baleshwar. He saw the plight of the people for want of foodgrains and how they consumed leaves of trees. Death due to starvation started from the month of March-April 1866. The death toll increased day by day and finally there were human corpses everywhere as if the whole province was covered with dead bodies. When the relief centres were started in the towns, starved men flocked to them, but they could hardly digest the food served to them because of their long starvation. Fakir Mohan was an eye-witness to the scene of dead bodies being carried in carts everyday for about a month and a half in Baleshwar town.

By September 1866, the government established 22 relief centres in the district where cooked food was distributed. The relief operations continued throughout the year 1867 and large quantities of rice were imported in to the province. The prices were subsidised so as to enable the people to buy the articles at a cheaper rate. In order to mitigate the sufferings of the government employees, their allowances were enhanced from 1 April, 1867 to the end of the year. The cultivators, who were unable to secure seeds for themselves, were advanced paddy for cultivation. By adopting all such measures, the government tried to restore normalcy in the province. In December 1866, a Commission was appointed by the Government of India and its report was available in April, 1867. In August, a debate took place in this matter in the House of Commons. Sir Stafford Northcote, the Secretary of State for India, while winding up the debate, spoke as follows:

"This catastrophe must always remain a monument of our failure, a humiliation to the people of this country, to the Government of this country and to those of our Indian officials of whom we had been perhaps a little too proud. At the same time, we must hope that we might derive from it lessons which might be of real value to ourselves, and that out of this deplorable evil, good of no significant kind might ultimately arise."<sup>1</sup> No doubt, Orissa received some attention from the higher authorities after the grave disaster of 1866-67.

The devastating famine of 1866 rendered the resettlement of the estates in Orissa almost impossible. The British authorities adopted a lenient policy in view of the calamity and the thirty years long settlement, which was to lapse in 1867, was extended for a period of another 30 years. A proclamation was issued to that effect on 26th June 1867 and it invited the zamindars to appear before the District Collectors by 1st August 1867 and execute the

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1. Quoted in Bengal under the Lieutenant Governors, C.E. Buckland, vol I, p. 386

necessary agreements with the government. Thus, at one stroke, the Government conferred the blessings of a long settlement without any enhancement of its demands.

The province slowly recovered from the effects of the famine. By 1873-74, the zamindars were able to pay the land revenue to the government without any difficulty. T.E. Ravenshaw reported in July 1874, "Default in payment of revenue by a zamindar is a matter of rare occurrence, and government dues are realized with punctuality and precision and without giving undue pressure". The condition of the tenants, however, did not improve even after the enforcement of the Bengal Rent Act of 1859. In fact, the Act of 1859 remained in force in the province for a long time. By its provisions, rent cases were heard by the revenue courts as it was argued that the revenue officers were much better judges of such matters than the Munsifs. Besides, the proceedings in the revenue courts were simpler, speedier and cheaper than in the civil courts. But the peasants in Orissa made little use of the Act. The Commissioner remarked in the land revenue report of 1872-73 that "In Orissa the tenant is generally yielding and ignorant and eminently oppressible, to tally unacquainted with his rights and falls an easy prey to an unscrupulous landlord". Such was the lot of the peasants in the district in the 19th century.

Six years before the lapse of the term of the settlement in Orissa, the Government decided to start the major settlement of the province in right earnest. In 1891, H. R. Reilly was appointed as the Settlement Officer to conduct the survey and settlement operations. Before he could make any substantial progress, he died in October, 1892 in an accident and Maude succeeded him. He completely reorganised the programmes, recast scales of establishment and secured uniformity of procedure. In October 1894 the charge of Baleshwar was separated and S. L. Maddox remained in charge as the Settlement Officer. In February 1896, on Maude's departure, Baleshwar was reunited with the rest of Orissa and the whole province was placed under the charge of S. L. Maddox. He completed the settlement operations and submitted a voluminous report in March 1900.

After the abandonment of salt manufacture by the Government in 1863, the salt trade was managed by the system of excise. The private manufacturers were permitted to produce it by payment of the fixed duty per maund to the Government. At the same time the import of foreign salt increased rapidly. The local salt industry could not compete with the superior quality of foreign salt available at a cheaper rate. Even the salt imported from Madras was cheaper than the indigenous product. The Salt Department in Orissa was

transferred to the supervision of the Commissioner of Salt Revenue at Madras in 1885 and from January 1886 the new system came into effect. One Assistant Salt Commissioner was posted at Baleshwar. Under the strict control and stringent rules of the Madras system, local salt manufacture did not increase. In Baleshwar district salt manufacture decreased more than 50 per cent due to large importation of Liverpool salt. Baleshwar was once the centre for the production of huge quantities of finest quality of *panga* salt in the eastern coast. As it produced only 2,939 maunds of *panga* salt, the Government decided to abolish its manufacture from November 1887 and completely depend on Liverpool salt. The discontinuance of the manufacture, no doubt, excited some public feeling in the district. It was an incalculable loss to the district and especially to the common people who depend on it for their livelihood. For a long time Orissa imported salt from outside in spite of its extensive sea coast and potentiality for production of salt.

By the second half of the 19th century A. D. the decline of trade and commerce in Orissa was an established fact. The abolition of salt monopoly had also adversely affected the commercial activities of the people. By 1873-74, it was remarked that "With the exception of a few merchants of Balasore, there are very few indigenous Oriya traders of energy and capital. Orissa is entirely dependant on Bengal, upcountry and Madras dealers; one or two European firms are generally acquiring a permanent footing"<sup>1</sup>. There were weekly rural markets in the interior of the province. In fact, except at towns there were hardly any shops found in the villages of Orissa. T. E. Ravenshaw noticed it as, 'a marked feature in this part of India'. The number of weekly rural markets in Baleshwar district was 165 in 1873-74. A decade later in 1883-84, another Commissioner of Orissa W. R. Larminie noticed that there were few capitalists in the province. The internal trade was chiefly controlled by Marwaris, while foreign trade was almost entirely in the hands of some enterprising Muslims from Cutch and Bombay"<sup>2</sup>.

Towards 1874, the importance of Baleshwar port declined considerably and its place was taken by the newly formed inland port of Chandbali which was connected with the Bay of Bengal by river Dhamra. Light steamers ran there almost daily to and fro Calcutta. The Commissioner of Orissa observed that, "the place was likely to become of vital importance to the province as a centre of coastal trade and activity"<sup>3</sup>. It was second only to False Point, which continued to be the chief port of call for

1. Administrative Report of Orissa Division, 1873-74, p. 9.

2. Administrative Report of Orissa Division, 1883-84, p. 10.

3. Administrative Report of Orissa Division, 1883-84, p. 10.

larger steamers and sea-going vessels. However, the importance of Chandbali grew rapidly and towards 1881 became the principal port of the province. It was considered more convenient by the merchants to bring their commodities to this inland port and hence there was a diversion of trade from False Point to Chandbali. By the growing demand of Chandbali port, more steamers visited the place and the Government also ran steamers from Cuttack to Calcutta. Two private firms also joined in the competition and that resulted in the decrease of freight rates and increase in the volume of trade.

As the inland water link between Cuttack and Chandbali was very popular, the British authorities decided to complete the link between Chandbali and Calcutta through a range of canals. Towards the close of 1880-81, the Government gave approval for this new inland water communication project. Probably, there was no proposal for construction of railways through coastal Orissa at that time. The Orissa Coast Canal project was considered to be much cheaper and its estimated cost was only 40 lakhs. The length of canal for joining Calcutta with Chandbali was 147.2 km. and it was divided into four ranges between Rasalpur in Midnapore district of West Bengal and Matai in Baleshwar district. The project was completed soon after 1887 and a part of sea borne trade of Orissa was diverted through this route. The Orissa Coast Canal continued as the important route for communication between Orissa and Bengal till the end of the 19th century A. D.

Steps were taken in the last decade of the 19th century for construction of railways through coastal Orissa. Two railway companies took the responsibility for joining Calcutta with Ganjam via Baleshwar and Cuttack with a branch line to Puri. The Bengal Nagpur Railway (B. N. R.) service was started in 1895. By the close of the year 1899—1900 the main bridges were completed and the railway route was opened in the coastal line except in the section between Howrah and Kolaghat. Thus, the year 1899-1900 was memorable in the history as it ended the isolation of Orissa from the rest of the country. The importance of the inland port at Chandbali and the Orissa Coast Canal rapidly declined after the opening of the railways.

Orissa came under the jurisdiction of the Calcutta High Court in 1862. The administration of civil justice was reorganised by the Act XVI of 1868. It abolished the office of *sadar amīn* and the principal *sadar amīn* was designated as the Subordinate Judge. The jurisdiction of District Judge and Subordinate Judge extended to all original suits cognizable by the civil courts. Appeals from

a District Judge lay to the High Court and appeals from Subordinate Judge and Munsif lay to the District Judge. Baleshwar had only a Munsif's Court. In 1872 the people of Baleshwar petitioned the Collector requesting him for the establishment of a court of a Subordinate Judge. The demand was accepted and such a court was established in 1875 as a temporary measure for one year. The experiment did not succeed because the number of Civil Suits was not sufficient for the retention of a Subordinate Judge. Hence the court was abolished, but again the demand was revived. In 1881 and 1882 the Commissioner of Orissa strongly recommended for revival of the court of a Subordinate Judge at Baleshwar. He considered it unfair to the people of Baleshwar, more especially to those residing in the northern part of the district, to compel them to come to Cuttack to prosecute or defend their civil suits. But the higher authorities did not pay any heed to it.

'The people of Orissa', T. E. Ravenshaw observed in 1874, 'are perhaps the least criminal in India'. John Beames, the Collector of Baleshwar and an experienced civilian of Orissa, also remarked in 1877 that "There is no professional crime in Orissa, and the people are as a rule, very quiet and orderly". However, in the last quarter of the 19th century, the number of criminal cases brought to the courts showed a tendency of increase. Several reasons were attributed to such a phenomenon. The Magistrate of Baleshwar remarked that "Increased litigation is fostered by social progress, by the increasing familiarity of the people with the machinery of our courts, by the gradual declining authority of the Zamindars, and above all, by the great improvement in the material condition of the people which was attended by several years of extraordinarily good crops and extraordinarily high prices"<sup>1</sup>. Besides the salaried Magistrates, the Government decided to introduce the Bench system for administering criminal justice after the adoption of the revised Code of Criminal procedure in 1872. The system was first introduced in 1873 in Cuttack and Puri. Gradually it was extended to Baleshwar. The Benches consisted of a salaried Magistrate and two or more honorary Magistrates exercised even summary powers. It became increasingly popular. In 1890, the Bench system functioned at Baleshwar and Bhadrak. The Bench Magistrate successfully disposed of small criminal cases to the general satisfaction of the people.

#### GROWTH OF NATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS 1919—1920

In Orissa, as elsewhere in India in the 19th century A. D. the growth of socio-political awareness was facilitated mainly due to two factors; firstly, the rise of a middle class intelligentsia,

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1, Administrative Report of the Orissa Division, 1877—78, p. 21.

and secondly, the growth of mass media like press, journals, etc. The establishment of English-medium schools, colleges and universities spread the western education and slowly but steadily a new class of intelligentsia with novel hopes and aspirations appeared on the Indian scene.

In the forties of the 19th century the inhabitants of Baleshwar wanted an English medium school and they were willing to contribute money for its establishment. Petitions were sent to the authorities several times. In 1846, A. J. M. Mills, the Commissioner, recommended for the establishment of such a school. But the proposal was not accepted by the authorities. On November, 1853 the Government opened the first English medium school at Baleshwar to be known as the Baleshwar Zilla School. At that time, there were only two more such schools in Orissa, one at Puri and the other at Cuttack. In 1854, the famous Wood's Despatch introduced the grant-in-aid system with a hope that it would bring forward private enterprisers in the field. But, in Orissa, it evoked no response from the public for a long time. The main reason was, probably that only a few students came up to the Entrance standard. In 1867, only ten candidates appeared in the Entrance (Matriculation) examination from three Zilla Schools of the Orissa Division, and only three students came out successful.<sup>1</sup> The Zamindar family of Lakshmannath started a Middle English school and it was raised to a High English school during 1876—77.

The Baptist missionaries were the pioneers in establishing the modern press in Orissa in 1837. After thirty years, in 1867, the second press was established by the initiative of the people at Cuttack. A year after, in 1868, the third printing press was established at Baleshwar by the untiring efforts of Fakir Mohan Senapati with the help of a few local men and Zamindars. The fourth printing press was also established at Baleshwar by a local Zamindar. The establishment of printing presses served primarily three purposes, namely, printing of journals, preparation of text books and development of literature. From the printing press of Baleshwar, Fakir Mohan Senapati edited *Bodhadayini* and *Baleshwar Sambad Vahika*. The first part of the journal contained literary writings while the second part contained news items. In 1872 it became a weekly journal. After the *Utkal Dipika* published from Cuttack, it was probably the most influential journal of Orissa in the last quarter of the 19th century A. D. The journal symbolised the awakening of the people. It discussed many socio-religious and political problems of the province in particular and the country in general.

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1. Utkal Dipika, 12 January, 1871.

At the same time, several organizations sprang up to spearhead people's interest in different fields. They acted as mouthpieces of the rising educated class or intelligentsia who championed various socio-political and economic causes directed towards around improvement of the people. Three such prominent organizations in the district were (1) National Society at Baleshwar established in 1878, (2) Bhadrak Desh Hitaisini Sabha at Bhadrak established in 1874, and (3) B. Dey's Social Club at Baleshwar established in 1895. There is no doubt that these organizations succeeded to rouse the people from their age-long slumber and prepared the ground for national upsurge against foreign domination.

In the second half of the 19th century, Baleshwar readily came under the influence of Brahmo preachers. By 1860, a Samaj, on the Adi Samaj model existed in the town. It became effective only a few years later when Babu Bhagaban Chandra Das joined the movement. He brought much progressive spirit to it and mainly through his influence, some prominent men of Baleshwar joined the Samaj. They carried on propaganda in the neighbouring villages and thus the Brahmo ideals spread in and around Baleshwar. In 1888, Nandalal Banerjee, a missionary of the New Dispensation, made Baleshwar his principal centre and his efforts greatly strengthened Brahmo activities at Baleshwar<sup>1</sup>.

The political consciousness of the people in Orissa, as elsewhere in India, was roused during the last decade of the 19th century by their association with the Indian National Congress. No delegate from Orissa attended the first session of the Indian National Congress, but to the second session held at Calcutta in the last week of December 1886, the *Utkal Sabha* of Cuttack sent four delegates and the National Society of Baleshwar sent three members, namely, Baikuntha Nath De, Bhagaban Chandra Das and Ramesh Chandra Mandal<sup>2</sup>. They laid the foundation of constitutional struggle of the people against the British authorities. But the problems which agitated the minds of enlightened Oriyas for a long time were the amalgamation of Oriya-speaking tracts into one administrative unit and the formation of a separate province. The agitation for amalgamation of Oriya-speaking tracts roused and moulded public opinion and helped greatly in the growth of political consciousness of the people in the early part of the 20th century.

The first proposal for the unification of the scattered Oriya-speaking tracts under single administration came from Raja Baikuntha Nath De of Baleshwar and Babu Bichitrananda Patnaik

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1. History of the Brahmo Samaj, Sivanath Sastri, p. 522.

2. Utkal Dipika, 25 December, 1886.



of Cuttack in 1875<sup>1</sup>. Petitions were sent in vain from different parts of Orissa. Towards the end of the year 1902, Raja Baikuntha Nath De once again presented a memorial to Lord Curzon in which he urged the Governor-General to constitute a separate administrative unit for all Oriya-speaking territories or to keep them under one provincial administration of either Bengal, Madras or the Central Provinces.

The demand of the people finally paved the way for the establishment of a new central organisation in the province to put forth their grievances before the British authorities. On the 30th and 31st December, 1903 the representatives of all Oriya-speaking tracts of Madras, the Central Provinces and Bengal met in a conference at Cuttack. That was the historic gathering of *Utkal Sammilani* which met amidst unprecedented enthusiasm and spearheaded the Oriya Movement till the formation of a separate province in 1936. The first conference was presided by Sriram Chandra Bhanj Deo, the Maharaja of Mayurbhanj. Madhu Sudan Das was the Secretary and in fact, the moving spirit behind the organisation. It was the first and pioneering attempt in India to create a province on linguistic basis. Baleshwar and its people played their due role in the movement. Maharaja Baikuntha Nath De presided over its tenth session held at Cuttack. The people of Orissa were not satisfied with being tagged with Bihar in 1912. It was decided to strengthen the movement by exerting greater pressure on the British authorities. The crucial meeting of the *Utkal Sammilani* was held at Baleshwar in December 1916 in which a seven-member committee was formed with a view to collecting materials and carrying on continuous executive work of the conference regarding the union of the Oriya-speaking tracts throughout the year. The committee prepared an address with a memorandum of arguments and map of the outlying Oriya tracts and waited on E. S. Montagu, the Secretary of State for India and Lord Chemsford, the Governor-General, in Calcutta on 11th December 1917. Soon after it, the 13th annual session of the *Utkal Sammilani* was held at Cuttack on 30th and 31st March, 1918 under the presidentship of Fakir Mohan Senapati and it constituted a Standing Council of 65 members from all parts of Orissa including the outlying tracts. However, the Montagu-Chemsford Report did not solve the problem. The policy of the Government did not change and the apathy lingered on. During the First World War a revolutionary incident occurred at Odangi on 10th September, 1915 in which the famous revolutionary Jatin Mookerjee popularly famous as Bagha Jatin was killed.

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1. *Utkal Dipika*, 27 February, 1876.

The beginning of 1921 witnessed two momentous events in the history of India, the first was the introduction of constitutional changes by the implementation of the Government of India Act, 1919, and the second and more important event was the beginning of a mass movement, the non-co-operation movement initiating a new phase of our freedom struggle.

### **Non-Co-Operation Movement**

In the annual session of the Indian National Congress held at Nagpur in the last week of December 1920 under the presidency of Vijayraghavacharias, the final decision on the launching of non-co-operation movement took place. The Indian people now entered the decisive phase of their freedom struggle under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. Thirty-five delegates from Orissa including some prominent leaders of Baleshwar like Mukunda Prasad Das and Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab attended the Nagpur Session. They supported the formation of Provincial Congress Committees on linguistic basis. On the basis of such a decision the Utkal Provincial Congress Committee was constituted in early 1921 with Pandit Gopabandhu Das, as its first President. The District Congress Committees were gradually formed and some members were given specific charges of organising Congress activities in different parts of the province. Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab was kept in charge of Baleshwar district. He gave up his studies in the college and worked wholeheartedly to organise the Congress movement in the district.

The non-co-operation movement in Orissa got much encouragement due to Gandhiji's visit to the province on the 23rd March, 1921. He addressed a meeting at Bhadrak on 25th March and spent a day in propagating the Congress programmes for the freedom of the country. It created an unprecedented enthusiasm in Orissa. The message of non-co-operation spread like wildfire in different parts of the district and kindled the imagination of the people even in remote corners.

Dr. Mahtab, Karunakar Panigrahi, Krushna Prasad Mahapatra and Bhairab Chandra Mahapatra reached Baleshwar town in the morning of 6th April, 1921 and thereafter plunged into the national movement with a sense of devotion and discipline. Soon, a number of school students gave up their studies and joined Congress as volunteers; prominent among them were Biswanath Hota and Nilamber Das. Other youngmen who joined the movement were Nandakishore Das, Banchanidhi Mohanty, Ghanashyam Sahu, Upendra Nath Panda, Subodha Chandra Deo, Surendra Nath Das and Muhammad Hanif resigned from

their Government jobs and dedicated themselves to the Congress work. Such examples of personal sacrifice provided much impetus to the movement. In Baleshwar, as elsewhere in the province, a dedicated cadre of Congress workers and leaders was formed by those who joined the movement in 1921. They made tremendous sacrifice and suffered most in the struggle for freedom.

At different places in Orissa, some centres were established to organise the Congress activities and to train up workers and volunteers for the movement. One such prominent centre was *Swaraj Mandir* at Baleshwar which was under the guidance of Dr. Mahtab. The Congress volunteers were taught how to spread among villagers the message of non-co-operation. The Congress programmes were (i) boycott of government schools, college, law courts, etc., (ii) boycott of foreign goods, (iii) propagation of hand-spinning and weaving by popularising the use of *charkha*, (iv) establishment of village Panchayats and national schools, (v) prohibition, etc. All such programmes were pursued in right earnest by the Congress volunteers in different parts of the district.

In the Baleshwar District Congress Committee, Bipin Behari Das and Harekrushna Mahtab acted as the President and Secretary respectively. Prominent workers were allotted different areas of the district as follows :

Jaleshwar	.. Karunakar Panigrahi, Biswanath Hota and Harendra Ghose.
Basta	.. Krushna Prasad Mahapatra and Nilambar Das.
Soro	.. Nanda Kishore Das.
Bhadrak	.. Banchanidhi Mohanty, Ghanashyam Sahu, Upendra Nath Panda and Muhammad Hanif.

Bhairab Chandra Mahapatra remained in charge of the Congress office in Baleshwar town where H. Mahtab also worked hard with the help of Surendra Nath Das and Subodh Chandra De to spread the message of the Congress.

As a number of students left schools and colleges the Congress leaders decided to establish some National schools and colleges for educating their children. A number of such institutions sprang up in different parts of the province. In order to co-ordinate the activities of such National schools and to conduct

the examinations for students, Utkal Swarajya Sikshya Parishad was constituted at Cuttack under the presidentship of Gopabandhu Das. Nanda Kishore Das (M. A., Calcutta) joined as the Secretary of the organisation. The Parishad acted as National University which arose in the days of non-co-operation movement.

Pickettings before the foreign liquor shops and cloth shops were widely practised. It was successful to a large extent in Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Jaleshwar area. Heaps of foreign clothes were burnt at several places. The establishment of Village Panchayats for arbitration of petty civil and criminal cases were to some extent successful. The villagers enthusiastically set up such organisations to solve their problems. Some zamindars of Bhadrak area without registering rent suits in the law courts, sent a list of defaulters to the local Congress office. In some Panchayats like Srijang, even sale-deeds were registered.

Towards the end of July 1921, the All India Congress Committee met at Bombay. Harekrushna Mahtab attended the session as one of the members from Orissa. The All India Congress Committee (A. I. C. C.) resolved to emphasize several programmes of the movement like the boycott to the Prince of Wales, the programmes for prohibition, popularisation of *charkha*, etc. In the meantime, the province got ten thousand rupees from Tilak Swarajya Fund which was distributed to different district units of the party. Baleshwar got one and a half thousand rupees as its share. In December 1921, about 127 delegates from Orissa attended the annual session of the Congress at Ahmadabad which included 53 delegates from Baleshwar district. They returned with much enthusiasm to start civil disobedience as the next phase of the movement. A large number of volunteers were recruited for this purpose and in every district some specific areas were also selected. In this district a village known as Sartha in the police-station of Basta was chosen by the organisers.

But the tragic incidence at Chauri Chaura in February 1922 changed the course of events all of a sudden and Gandhiji suspended the programme of civil disobedience indefinitely. The programme of constructive works were however to continue as before. Within a few months top Congress leaders in the country including Gandhiji were arrested and put into jails. The Congress leaders of Orissa, Gopabandhu Das, H. Mahtab, and others were behind the bars. The Government adopted strong repressive measures to put an end to the movement. However, it was not possible to turn the tide of mass political awakening in the country.

The emergence of the Swaraj Party in 1923 opened a new vista in Indian politics. Its decision to participate in the elections to the various legislative bodies in order to obstruct the work of the Government from within the four walls of the council chambers until the demands of the people were met, gave rise to new hopes and aspirations. In spite of the opposition from a section of the Congress Party, leaders like Pandit Motilal Nehru, C. R. Das and others were convinced about the efficacy of their plans and programmes and ultimately succeeded in getting approval of the Congress. In the elections to the legislatures in November 1923, the Swaraj Party contested a large number of seats. In Bihar and Orissa, they won 12 seats. Radha Ranjan Das from north Baleshwar constituency was the only elected member of the party from Orissa. In fact, the whole organisation of the Congress was in shambles. Pandit Gopabandhu Das was in jail. Harekrushna Mahtab, who was released after one year of rigorous imprisonment, tried to continue *Khadi* programmes in *Swaraj Mandir* at Baleshwar. He also brought out *Prajatantra* as a weekly newspaper from his own press at Baleshwar towards the end of 1923. Bansidhar Rath and Biswanath Hota, the two devoted Congress members managed it well. In 1924 H. Mahtab was also elected as the Chairman of the Baleshwar Zilla Board and undertook welfare activities throughout the district in right earnest. The popularity of Congress was evident when two Congress members, H. Mahtab and Nanda Kishore Das, were elected from the district in November, 1926 to the Legislative Council of Bihar and Orissa.

Members of the Council from Orissa unanimously drew the attention of Government to recurrent high floods and consequent damage to crops, property and lives and demanded that immediate measures for protection against floods and prompt relief at the time of floods be taken. A devastating flood occurred in the districts of Baleshwar and Cuttack during July-August 1927. The big rivers like Subarnarekha, Baitarani, Brahmani and a number of small rivers caused extensive damages to life and property in a vast area. A striking feature of this flood was the extensive breaches caused in the railway line, canal banks, protective embankments and on the Grand Trunk Road of Orissa. The gravity of the situation was realised by the Government and Sir H. L. Stephenson, the Governor of Bihar and Orissa, gave a statement in the Council on the 30th August, 1927 assuring the House that the officers had been provided with all the funds needed for relief operations. On the same day, H. Mahtab moved a resolution urging the Government to appoint a committee consisting of non-official and official members "to start an immediate enquiry into the

present state of things in the flood affected areas of Cuttack and Balashwar districts to ascertain the magnitude of the loss the people have sustained and to suggest measures of relief<sup>1</sup>. On behalf of the Government, J. D. Sifton gave a lengthy statement on the flood situation in Orissa with an assurance from him that he himself was going to visit the distressed parts immediately after the conclusion of the session. The resolution was withdrawn. However, by the pressure of public opinion, the Government appointed an expert committee consisting of three members to investigate the flood problem in Orissa. The committee submitted its report in 1928. It was the first authoritative review on the flood problems in Orissa, but its recommendations could not be implemented due to administrative and financial difficulties.

#### CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT

The Indian political scene took a dramatic turn with the announcement of the appointment of the Indian Statutory Commission in November 1927 consisting of seven members of the British Parliament headed by Sir John Simon. The primary purpose of such a commission was to evaluate the working of the Government of India Act, 1919 with a view to determining the future course of constitutional development. The exclusion of Indians from a body, which was to recommend for further constitutional advancement of the Indian people, was so unreasonable and unjust that India sharply reacted to the announcement. The problem finally paved the way for the next mass movement in the country.

In the annual session of the Indian National Congress held at Lahore in the last week of December 1929 under the presidentship of Jawaharlal Nehru, nothing but complete independence or *purna swaraj* was accepted as the national demand and the Congress was determined to reach the goal by mass civil disobedience movement throughout the country. By the call of the Lahore Congress, it was decided to celebrate 26th January as the Independence Day throughout India in which the people were required to pledge their full support to the declaration of independence. At Balashwar, Harekrushna Mahtab and Nanda Kishore Das took prominent part in organizing the function. When Gandhiji decided to launch the countrywide movement by breaking the Salt law at Dandi, a village on the sea coast in Gujarat, it was received with much enthusiasm by the Congress leaders in Orissa. People took it as their rights to manufacture salt in the long coastal belt of Orissa.

1. Proceedings of the Legislative Council of Bihar and Orissa, Vol. XVI, 1927, p. 178.

Baleshwar played a conspicuous role in Salt Satyagraha which began on 6th April, 1930 when Mahatma Gandhi broke the Salt law at Dandi after his famous march to that place. The Utkal Pradesh Congress Committee in its meeting at Baleshwar on 16th March, 1930, had decided to start the movement at Inchudi, a place in the sea coast, 16 kilometres from Baleshwar town. The villagers at Inchudi showed exemplary tenacity and courage throughout the movement. On the basis of the Government report, it was claimed that the Salt Satyagraha at Inchudi occupied the second place in India, the first being Gujarat where Gandhiji himself led the movement.

The first batch of 21 volunteers, led by Gopabandhu Chowdhury and Acharya Harihar Das, began their march to Inchudi from Swaraj Ashram at Cuttack. They were determined to break the Salt law on 13th April and accordingly they planned their journey of about 192 km. in 7 days. But on 8th April, Gopabandhu Chowdhury was arrested at Chandai and was confined in the Cuttack jail for seven days. In his absence the party was led by Acharya Harihar Das and they reached Inchudi on 12th April. On the next day, 12 volunteers including the leader, Acharya Harihar broke the Salt law and began the preparation of salt on the sea coast. The police party was already on the spot and they arrested the leader and 6 volunteers. Thus began the Civil Disobedience Movement in Orissa. There was unprecedented enthusiasm in the Salt Satyagraha launched at Inchudi. Soon a large number of volunteers in several batches reached Baleshwar sea coast from Cuttack, Puri, Ganjam, Sambalpur, Baripada and other parts of Orissa. The local people joined with the Congress volunteers in large numbers and in six centres in the sea coast contraband salt was prepared. Surendra Nath Das, who had organised the villagers near Inchudi, was arrested and sentenced to six months imprisonment along with Jivaramji Kalyanji, a prominent Gujarati Congress worker on 12th April, a day before the beginning of actual struggle. However, the people of the surrounding villages did not co-operate at all with the Government officials and they even refused to supply drinking water to them. The representative of the Oriya newspaper, the *Samaj*, who toured the area at that time reported that Surendra Nath Das was the real *sardar* or Commander of the local people and Inchudi became the Bardoli of Orissa.<sup>1</sup> Thereafter, Surendra Nath Das was popularly known as Sardar Surendra.

On 20th April police saw hundreds of women violating the Salt law and collecting salt in two centres at Inchudi. They were led by Rama Devi and Malati Devi, the two prominent women

1. The *Samaj*, 16th April, 1930.

leaders of Orissa. Thus, the women of Orissa took part openly in the freedom struggle. In May, 1930 new centres for salt manufacture were opened in the long sea coast of Orissa. In the district, besides Inchudi, another prominent centre was Sartha. It operated under the leadership of Mathura Mohan Behera, Karunakar Panigrahi and Nilambar Das. Soon the entire sea coast of the district became the centre for the manufacture of salt. There were altogether 21 centres in the district. They were spread from Sartha in the north to Eram in the south. Thus, under the inspiring leadership of the Congress leaders the people of Baleshwar achieved a spectacular success in Salt Satyagraha. With the advent of rainy season, the production of salt was stopped and the Congress workers pursued other programmes of the freedom struggle with unabated zeal.

Meanwhile, all prominent Congress leaders of Orissa and hundreds of volunteers were imprisoned. Dr. H. Mahtab, Nanda Kishore Das, Dr. Krushna Prasad Mohanty and others, were confined in the prison. The two most influential newspapers propagating the Congress views and news of the movement, the *Prajatantra* of Baleshwar and the *Samaj* of Cuttack, were forced to stop their publications in May 1930 for an indefinite period due to stringent press ordinance. A veritable reign of terror was let loose to suppress the mass movement in the district. As a protest against the repressive policy of the Government a member of the Legislative Council of Bihar and Orissa, Bhagabat Prasad Mahapatra of Bhadrak, tendered his resignation in May 1930.

Besides Salt Satyagraha, other programmes of civil disobedience including picketting before excise shops, boycott of foreign cloth, spread of *Khadi*, non-payment of Chaukidari tax, etc., were continued. A number of school and college students gave up their studies and joined in the freedom struggle. In some places the people also refused to pay the Chaukidari tax. Ancillary to this a serious incident took place at Srijang near Inchudi where a police party was manhandled by an infuriated mob on 12th July, 1930. It led to severe repressive measures on the villagers. The properties of prominent persons like Gour Mohan Das and Bidyadhar Rath were looted and the villagers fled away to other places in panic. A large number of villagers were arrested and a punitive tax amounting to six thousand rupees was imposed on the villagers. Towards the end of November 1930 about 1,200 persons were in jail. The Government promulgated an ordinance and declared all Congress organisations as unlawful.



The Editor of Prajatantra was convicted and sentenced to two years of rigorous imprisonment for treason. The office was searched and important documents were seized by the police.<sup>1</sup>

The Salt Satyagraha was resumed in many places of coastal Orissa in January 1931. At Baleshwar, the Congress office functioned at a place known as Pharasidinga, a French enclave, over which the British authorities had no control. Sardar Surendra Nath Das, who had returned from jail organized the movement at Inchudi once again and directed it from the French enclave. But, in the meantime, the political atmosphere of the country changed due to Gandhi-Irwin Pact on 5th March, 1931. However, it was a temporary truce. The Congress was forced to resume civil disobedience again in 1932. The Government promptly engaged its machinery to arrest the Congress leaders and volunteers all over the country. However, some of them went underground and tried to continue the movement. Sardar Surendra Nath Das guided the movement from Pharasidinga till his arrest in February, 1933. The British police could not enter the area without permission of the French Government. So the top officials of the district visited Inchudi and by threat of persecution brought undertakings from the villagers that they were not participating in the movement<sup>2</sup>. Nilambar Das worked secretly in north Baleshwar for a few months. With strong repressive measures the authorities thought of putting down movement as quickly as possible. But the movement lingered on till early part of 1934.

On 9th May, 1934, Gandhiji began his famous *padayatra* from Puri for removal of the conception of untouchability from among the people. It was not only a novel experiment in India, but also provided a unique experience to Gandhiji himself. In the second phase of the *Padayatra* in Orissa which began from Bairi on 21st May, 1934 he continued his march till 7th June, 1934 which ended at Bhadrak. It was a sort of spiritual experience for him and he realised the magnitude of the poverty that prevailed in Indian villages. The living condition of the village people in Orissa moved his heart to such an extent that Orissa always remained imprinted in his heart and memory.

The march came to an end at Bhadrak due to the coming of rainy season. Gandhiji left Bhadrak on 8th June and proceeded to Bengal by train. During his tour in the district he delivered speeches and collected subscriptions. At Baleshwar railway station

1. The Samaj, 31st December, 1930. The Prajatantra ceased its publication thereafter and appeared once again only after the Independence of India.

2. Baleshwar District Records, D. O. No. 158/C, District, Collector to Commissioner, 9th February, 1932.

he was received by a huge crowd for which the train was detained for an hour. A purse was presented to Gandhiji. Some Gujarati merchant, also presented him another purse.

The Harijan movement in Orissa roused the people to a great extent. Some of the top Congress leaders inspired by Gandhian ideals, devoted themselves whole-heartedly to build some Congress centres in remote rural areas for pioneering the cause of *harijans*, *Khadi* and village reconstruction programmes. In the district, there were two prominent centres, viz., (i) Karma Mandir at Agarpada in Baleshwar town and (ii) Bhadrak Ashram at Bhadrak guided by Harekrushna Mahtab and Jivaramji Kalyanji respectively.

Meanwhile, after the end of the Third Round Table Conference, Shri Samuel Hoare, the Secretary of State for India, declared on 24th December, 1932 that a separate province of Orissa would be formed in the new constitutional set up for India. The White Paper, published in March, 1933, mentioned Orissa as a Governor's province along with ten other provinces of British India. The Joint Parliamentary Committee, in their report in November 1934, gave the final shape to the new province which emerged by the Act of 1935 as the eleventh unit of British India. It was inaugurated on 1st April, 1936 with Sir John Austin Hubback as its first Governor.

In the first general election to the Orissa Legislative Assembly in early 1937, all Congress nominees of the district were returned successfully except the candidate for special Muslim constituency. When the first Congress Ministry was formed in July, 1937, two Congress legislators of the district, namely, Mukunda Prasad Das and Nanda Kishore Das, were duly elected as the Speaker and Deputy Speaker respectively. The ministry continued in office till 4th November 1939, i.e, for about two years and four months. Besides the Congress programmes and policies which were given effect to by the ministry in Orissa it had to seriously endeavour to tackle a number of problem facing the new province, specially agrarian and economic problems. It was one of the poorest province in the country and its annual budget was hardly rupees two crores. But within the limited resources the Congress ministry tried its best to keep up the promises of the party and its ideals. Hence we find a large number of statutes to the credit of this Ministry. Its social and educational reforms were noteworthy.

It also pursued the programme of prohibition in right earnest. The Government first decided to tackle the problem of opium addiction in this district. A comprehensive scheme was prepared for the success of the programme. A Prohibition Officer was appointed

in September 1938 to look after the detailed arrangements for introduction of the scheme. The programme was inaugurated on 12th October, 1938 in a solemn function at Baleshwar. All the Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries and Congress leaders attended the function and addressed a huge gathering in the municipal office premises in the evening. The Premier appealed to the people to co-operate with the programme which was aimed at eradication of a social evil. A majority of existing opium shops were closed from 15th October 1938, except 14 shops on the border areas of the district. The Government restricted and regulated the sale of opium and undertook various kinds of measures for the success of the scheme.

The Congress ministry resigned on 4th November 1939 on war issue. The party decided to launch individual Satyagraha campaign from October 1940. In Orissa the movement was inaugurated by H. Mahtab, a member of the Congress Working Committee, who delivered anti-war speech in a meeting at Remuna and was arrested. All ex-ministers, members of the Assembly and leading Congressmen participated in the campaign and courted arrest and imprisonment. While on the one hand the British authorities succeeded in forming a coalition ministry in Orissa in November 1941, the Congress party was forced to launch a new movement in the country from August 1942.

The historic resolution of 'Quit India' was adopted by the All India Congress Committee in the night of 8th August, 1942. The British Government swiftly moved its machinery to repress the Congress leaders and their organizations throughout the country from the early morning of 9th August 1942. In Orissa all important Congress leaders were taken into custody. The Government declared all Congress bodies, their officers and other allied organisations as unlawful and the police took possession of those places.

The August Revolution was a people's movement against the British authority which took violent turns. In the district the first violent incident took place on 17th August 1942 at Bhandaripokhari where a mob of about four thousand people surrounded the police-station. There were only one Assistant Sub-Inspector and three Constables in the police-station at that time. One Constable was beaten severely and others fled away to save their lives. The police-station was burnt completely. The people also destroyed a wooden bridge so that the police force from outside would not be able to come quickly to the disturbed area. The government arrested the leading

agitators including Jagannath Das, a Congress Member of Legislative Assembly (M. L. A. ) of the area. A collective fine of Rs. 6,000 was imposed on twelve villages for mob violence.

The police resorted to firing at Katsahi where a violent mob attacked an armed police party on 22nd September, 1942. Eight persons died in the incident. Subsequently the ring leader of the area, Muralidher Panda was arrested. A week later police opened fire to disperse an unruly mob at Khairadihi and then at Tudigadia on 28th September in which two local people and a few persons from Nilagiri were killed.

The most tragic incident took place at Eram a place near the seashore in Basudebpur police-station on 28th September 1942. It remained almost isolated in the rainy season because of natural barriers. The Congress workers wanted to establish a sort of parallel administration of their own and had boycotted the police and other officials in the locality. On that fateful day a few hundred villagers had assembled on an open place surrounded on three sides by thorny bushes, muddy fields and ponds, on hearing the usual sound of conch-shells. They had come to listen to their leaders on the possible course of action against the police and local supporter of the British Raj. A strong police contingent headed by a Deputy Superintendent of Police arrived there and asked the people to disperse. The police had already decided to take strong action against them because of snatching the Dak and the belongings of the police party from a Chowkidar. When the people did not disperse, police fired and several rounds of gunfire were discharged on a thick crowd which killed 29 people at the spot and injured more than hundred persons <sup>1</sup>.

The Government was vehemently criticised for such a brutal action and ultimately an official enquiry was made by the Inspector-General of Police and the Revenue Commissioner of Orissa. The enquiry report revealed the lapses of the local police in controlling the situation in the early phase of the rising. In fact, the firing which occurred at several places in the district were primarily due to confrontation of the police party with the mob. The popular upsurge was not properly tackled in its earlier phase and consequently the police action caused serious trouble at several places. The Eram Enquiry Report reveals that "It is not clear to what extent the general rise in prices and shortage of essential supplies were direct

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1. History of the Freedom Movement in Orissa (ed), Vol. IV, pp. 81—85.

causes of these disturbances but we have little doubt that there were important factors in fomenting discontent <sup>1</sup>. After the Eram firing the agitation calmed down in south Baleshwar.

A severe cyclone lashed in north Baleshwar on 15th and 16th October, 1942. Thousands of homeless and starved people raided a rice mill at Lakshmannath after the cyclone. Police opened firing to disperse the crowd in which one person was killed and a few were injured. However, the disturbance gradually declined in the district and was almost under control by the end of October 1942. Under the Defence of India Rules, a large number of Congress workers, 15 members of the Orissa Legislative Assembly and its Deputy Speaker, Nanda Kishore Das, were arrested. Several institutions of local-self government both in Cuttack and Baleshwar districts were superseded by the Government. The Government also promulgated stringent press regulations to control the nationalist newspapers and journals published in Orissa.

The economic condition of the people rapidly deteriorated in the country due to high prices and short supplies. The situation in Orissa caused grave anxiety to the authorities. It further worsened with the introduction of free trade policy by the Central Government within the eastern region which comprised Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Assam and Eastern States. The result of this order was that the provincial Government was deprived of the power to regulate or control movements of foodgrains and prices. Baleshwar was hard hit due to the cyclone of 1942 and subsequent high flood of 1943. Bengal suffered from a terrible famine at that time in which lakhs of people perished. Its impact was greatly felt at Baleshwar very much. Pandit H.N. Kunzru, the President of Servants' of India Society, who visited certain parts of the coastal districts of Orissa in the last week of October 1943, remarked that, "My impression is that while the area in the districts of Orissa is smaller than in Bengal the distress in the affected areas is nearly as acute as any of the districts of Bengal that I have visited". There was no doubt that the government had failed to relieve the distress of the people. Of course, the free-trade policy was cancelled due to its disadvantages. But the Premier of Orissa agreed by force of circumstances, to release large stocks of rice to Bengal. Later on Kunzru deplored that as a poor province Orissa should have received special consideration at the hands of the central authorities, but instead of showing any sympathy, "they have accentuated its misfortune by their policy" <sup>2</sup>.

1. History of the Freedom Movement in Orissa (ed), Vol. IV, Appendix-E, pp. 67—75.

2. Indian Annual Registers, 1943. Vol. II. p. 17.

After the end of the Second World War the situation took a dramatic turn by the victory of the Labour Party in England which paved the way for India's independence. In the election to the Orissa Legislative Assembly, the Congress party had won absolute majority. Dr. H. Mahtab who won from Bhadrak constituency took the oath of office and secrecy as the Premier of Orissa (now the post is Chief Minister of Orissa) in the forenoon of 23rd April 1946. With the achievement of independence India entered into a new phase of her history.

#### HISTORY OF NILAGIRI EX-STATE

The ex-state of Nilagiri, situated between  $21^{\circ} 17'$  and  $21^{\circ} 37' N$ . and  $86^{\circ} 25'$  and  $86^{\circ} 25' E$ ., with an area of 278 square miles was the only Garhjat state which merged in the district of Baleshwar after independence before the merger of other ex-states with Orissa. It is one of the three subdivisions of the district with the headquarters at Nilagiri about 22 km. from Baleshwar town.

The origin of the ex-state of Nilagiri like the most Garhjat state, is shrouded in obscurity. However, it is certain that they were well established as political entities by the late mediaeval period. The antiquities of Ayodhya, 10 km. from Nilagiri town dates back to a much earlier period. It thrived as an important centre of Jainism, Buddhism and Hinduism. The ruins of temples and icons of different cults are still found in the site, which conclusively proves that the area was once a prominent centre of human activities.

The first important ruler mentioned in the traditional history of Nilagiri was Narayan Basanta Birata Bhujanga Baliar Singhdeo, a contemporary of Prataparudradeva of Gajapati dynasty. It is also believed that he married in the Gajapati family of Orissa. This matrimonial alliance helped him to stabilize his position and the jurisdiction of Nilagiri. However, we get a systematic account of the royal family from the time of occupation of Orissa by the East India Company in 1803. The rulers of Nilagiri like the rulers of most of the Garhjat states signed a treaty engagement with the authorities of the Company and agreed to pay an annual tribute to acknowledge its paramountcy.

The line of succession during the British rule is as follows:

Rama Chandra Mardaraj Harichandan  
(1800 A. D.—1810 A. D.)

Govinda Chandra  
(1811—1848)

|  
 Krushna Chandra  
 (1849—1893)  
 |  
 Syam Sundar  
 (1898—1913)  
 |  
 Kishore Chandra  
 (1925—1947)

The Garhjat rulers were subordinate allies under the paramount authority of the British. The Garhjats of Orissa were known as Tributary Mahals for a long time. By the Regulation 12 of 1805, these Tributary Mahals of Orissa including Nilagiri, were exempted from the operation of the British laws and regulations. In 1814, Lord Hastings established the office of the Superintendent of Tributary Mahals for proper supervision and management. It provided a 'useful check on their misconduct'. In 1862, adoption Sanads were granted to the chiefs and in 1874 the hereditary title of Raja was conferred on all of them. In 1882, the Calcutta High Court declared in a judgement that the Tributary Mahals of Orissa did not form a part of British India. In 1894, they were recognised as the feudatory chiefs and new Sanads were granted defining their status, powers and position. In the last decade of the 19th century, the British attitude was clearly revealed in the Sanads. To ensure good administration, the chiefs were directed "you shall recognise and maintain the rights of all your people and you shall on no account oppress them or suffer them to be in any way oppressed". They were also strictly enjoined: "you shall consult the Superintendent of the Tributary Mahals in all important matters of administration, and comply with his wishes. The settlement and collection of the land revenue, the imposition of taxes, the administration of justice, arrangements connected with excise, salt and opium, the concession of mining, forest, and other rights, disputes arising out of any such concession, and disputes in which other States are concerned shall, be regarded as specially important matters, and in respect to them you shall at all times conform to such advice as the Superintendent of the Tributary Mahals may give you"<sup>1</sup>. Such a clause in the Sanads clearly reveals the nature of British administration and the status enjoyed by the chiefs of Orissa even after the decision of the High Court that those territories did not form a part of British India. In the first decade of the 20th century, the *garhjats* were recognised as the Feudatory States of Orissa and a Political Agent was appointed in 1906 to assist the chiefs.

1. C. U. Aitchison, *Treaties, Sanads, etc.*,  
 (Govt. of India, 1931).

The paramountcy of the British crown over the Indian States began to be asserted with greater certainty after the Revolt of 1857. The Company's policy of annexation was reversed, but the paramount power exercised its function beyond the terms of the treaties in accordance with changing political, social and economic conditions. Sir William Lee-Warner called such a policy as the policy of subordinate union. In case of the Tributary Mahals of Orissa, "the tie is more or less of a constitutional character. Such powers as the chiefs exercise they owe to British policy, although the country has been declared to lie beyond British India<sup>1</sup>". The British authorities interfered in the internal administration of the feudatory chiefs on several grounds. Generally the interference took place in cases of disputes between two rajas, disturbances between the raja and his feudatories, disputed succession and misrule or oppressive administration over the people. The British authorities also took-over the administration of a feudatory state if its chief was a minor and the administration was handed over only after the chief became major.

Though the feudatory chiefs were free to run their internal administration as they liked, yet in course of time, several links were established between the administrative system in British Orissa and the neighbouring feudatory states. The common link was a historical phenomenon. The people of both regions possessed the cultural and linguistic unity; the political diversity was superimposed only in British time. The British laws and regulations could not be introduced in those states, but the authorities did not give up their responsibility to maintain proper administrative and judicial system in those territories for the benefit of the people. They maintained law and order at all costs, made searching enquiries to find out the grievances of the people and appointed *dewans*, managers and such other officials to run the administration or to advise the rulers to do so properly.

In case of Nilagiri, the dispute regarding succession occurred in 1883-84 when the Raja Krushna Chandra adopted a son from the Mayurbhanj Raj family who later on became the ruler of the ex-state in 1898. Raja Syam Sundar Mardaraj was kept in Cuttack for about one and a half years from October 1905 to April 1907 in a criminal case judgement. He died at a premature age in 1913 when his son, Kishore Chandra was only nine years old and consequently the ex-state passed under the Court of Wards for twelve years. During this period, the British authorities undertook a detailed survey and settlement of Nilagiri ex-state. The settlement operations began in 1917 and were completed

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1. William Lee-Warner, the Native States of India. (London, 1910), p. 398.



in five years in 1922 during which 312 villages in all were surveyed and the rent of Rs. 83,994/- was fixed on the people. Its population, according to 1921 Census, was 65,222 and the tribute paid to the British Government was Rs. 65,222/- and the tribute paid to the British Government was Rs. 3,900-7-8 (Rs. 3,900.45).

Raja Kishore Chandra Mardaraj got the throne in July 1925 and continued to rule the state till its merger with the province of Orissa in 1948. He was a very unpopular ruler and the people's agitation against him began as early as 1928, ten years before the Praja Mandal Movement started in Orissa against the oppressive rulers of the Garhjat states. In 1928, the raja had agreed to give some relief to the distressed people by reducing the taxes and also by assuring them not to engage in work without payment. For about ten years peace was maintained between the ruler and the people.

In 1938, when the first Congress Ministry took charge of the administration of the province, the Praja Mandals or People's Associations were formed in most of the feudatory states. They were organised to secure legitimate rights and privileges for the people. The rulers were neither prepared to recognise those associations nor to redress the wrongs or grant their just demands. Consequently, the problem took a serious turn and widespread unrest prevailed in several ex-states. The first open revolt took place in Nilagiri. The people were united under the leadership of Kailash Chandra Mohanty, Banamali Das, Hadibandhu Raj, Balaram Raj, Pranabandhu Agarhi, Brundaban Sarangi, etc. As soon as Praja Mandal began to agitate for fulfilment of their demands, the ruler resorted to strong repressive measures. Not only the agitators were arrested, but also heavy fines were imposed and many of them were physically tortured. The situation gradually worsened and several thousands of people were prepared for mass civil disobedience movement. At this critical juncture, Harekrushna Mahtab, the then prominent Congress leader of Orissa and the Chairman of the State People's Enquiry Committee began negotiations with the ruler of the state and the Political Agent for some settlement of the problem. Finally, the ruler agreed to concede certain demands of the people and peace was restored for a certain period <sup>1</sup>.

Though there was temporary settlement with the ruler, the root cause of the grievances was not removed and the ruler took the opportunity of the Second World War to adopt strong

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1. History of the Freedom Movement in Orissa, (ed.), Vol. V, p. 122-23.

repressive measures against the revolting people of his state. Consequently, the trouble started once again after the War ended in 1945. The Praja Mandal held its open sessions under the leadership of Kailash Chandra Mohanty and declared to capture power from the ruler in order to establish responsible Government. The ruler did not hesitate to resort to all kinds of repressive measures, such as, lathi charge, arrest and detention without trial, etc. In Nilagiri, soon after the independence of India, the Praja Mandal formed a parallel Government and decided to occupy government offices and property. In a desperate effort to maintain his position, it was alleged, the ruler recruited some Muslims in his military force and finally instigated some tribals to plunder the villages. Thus, by October 1947, there was complete anarchy in the state.<sup>1</sup>

The Government of Orissa, headed by H. Mahtab, submitted regular reports about the affairs of Nilagiri to the Government of India and pressed that some strong action should be taken. The States Ministry finally decided to take charge of the administration of the state. V. P. Menon writes:

"The greatest concern to the Government of India was the possibility that outbreaks among the aborigines might spread to those neighbouring areas in which they formed a considerable proportion of the population..... It appeared that the time had come to take firm and immediate action if chaos was to be prevented. When, therefore, the Government of Orissa reported that the situation in Nilgiri was tense and that the trouble was spreading, the Government of India authorised to send the Collector of the nearest district (which was Balasore) to Nilgiri to take over the administration of the State<sup>2</sup>".

The task was accomplished on 14th November, 1947 without any trouble. A proclamation was issued by the Government of Orissa assuring the people of the state a strong, impartial and just administration. Naba Krushna Chowdhury, then Revenue Minister of Orissa, who directed the operation against Nilagiri on behalf of the Orissa Government gave a stern warning to the Eastern States while addressing a large public meeting at Cuttack on 18th November, 1947. He said :

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1. K. M. Patra, *Orissa Legislature and Freedom Struggle* (New Delhi, 1979), p. 283.

2. V. P. Menon, *The Story of the Integration of the Indian States*, p. 147.

"They should see the writing on the wall. The only course open before us is that of retaining our freedom and developing strength to establish real sovereignty of the people. The principle applied to Nilgiri may have to be pursued in case of all other States, if they went the same way."<sup>1</sup>

In fact, the writing on the wall was clear. The states no longer enjoyed British patronage and they had no independent resources to maintain their position. Exactly one month after the take over of the administration of Nilagiri, in the crucial meeting of the feudatory chiefs of Orissa held by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the fate of all the feudatory states of Orissa including Nilagiri was finally decided and this state merged with Orissa on the 1st January 1948.



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1. Amrita Bazar Patrika, 20th November, 1947.

## APPENDIX I

**The Jungle Forts of Northern Orissa**

By Jonh Beams, B. C. S., M. R. A. S., Magistrate of Balasore

Northern Orissa is, considering its situation within 150 miles of Calcutta, very isolated and little known. There is however a good historical reason for this. The kings of Orissa fixed their capital always in the southern part of the province and the long narrow strip of country between the hills and the sea was only at times, and never for long periods, under their sway. It was covered with dense jungle, which extended apparently with hardly any break to the banks of the Hooghly.\* The kings of Bengal, on the other hand, held their court either at Gaur, or some other place far to the north, and the lower Gangetic delta was to them also almost a *terra incognita*. The English settlement of Calcutta pushed out feelers along the course of the Ganges, and the wave of conquest and commerce followed the same path, leaving Midnapore and Balasore (Baleshwar) comparatively unheeded and unexplored. In the present day the great Imperial High road from Calcutta to Madras has opened up a portion of this country, and is much frequented, especially by the thousands and tens of thousands of pilgrims who annually visit the great shrine of Jagannath at Puri. But the line of traffic, and the road of invading armies in former times, did not follow the course of the present great avenue of communication and it is not therefore along the Madras and Calcutta road that we must look for relics of past times.

One hundred and fifteen miles S. W. of Calcutta, at the town of Jellasore (Jaleshwar) the road crosses the river Subanrekha (Subarnarekha—"streak of gold") at a spot on the confines of British territory and the territory of the tributary Raja of Mohurbhanj (Mayurbhanj). The river here winds so as to run for about five miles nearly parallel to the road on the northern side. Crossing the river we come into the isolated pargana of Pottihabad, one of the so-called Jungle Mehals, which is now included in the district of Balasore (Baleshwar). Nine miles north of Jellasore, and about two from the right bank of the river, amidst dense grass and tree jungle, which is here and there in course of being brought into cultivation, stands the group of forts which I propose to describe. I hope the above details will enable the reader to form a clear idea of their actual position on the map of India, in case however the ordinary maps should not show the road, or the little town of Jellasore. I would add that the forts are distant from the sea at the mouth of the Subanrekha, twenty-six miles as the crow flies.

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\* In writing native names I follow Dr. Hunter's rule of using the received (although often incorrect) spelling for well-known places, and the strictly correct Wilsonian System for those that are unknown to the general public.

I propose first to describe the forts themselves, and secondly to endeavour to arrive at an approximation to the date of their foundation, and to collect such few facts respecting their past history as I can. This enquiry will, if successful, throw considerable light on the relations between the kings of Orissa and their northern neighbours, as well as on the somewhat obscure subject of the Musalman invasions of the province, in addition to the more purely archaeological interest which it may present.

It will be seen from the annexed map that the forts are four in number, the two larger ones being close to the large village of Raibaniyan, and the two smaller ones at the village of Phulta, or more correctly Phulhatta. Of these two small forts nothing now remains save the outline of mud walls, with here and there a scattered mass of laterite stones.

The whole soil of this neighbourhood for many miles is composed of laterite, a dark brick-red stone full of holes like a sponge, but very hard. All these forts are built of this stone, though in many cases the stones have either, from having been originally loosely put together, or owing to some subsequent violence, become scattered or sunk in the soil. The stones are all hewn and of various sizes, the largest and most regularly shaped being found in the most important and probably most ancient portions of the work, the smaller and less carefully hewn in the walls and outworks. The largest stones are about 3 feet in length by a foot in depth, and the same in breadth, while in some of the pettier and more modern works, stones not bigger than ordinary bricks are found. Owing to the denseness of the jungle, and the great number of tigers and bears which find shelter there, it is very difficult to explore these forts thoroughly. In three visits which I have recently made to them, I obtained from the Zamindar some thirty or forty coolies armed with the useful little Sonthal axe, and these together with my own police and Chaukidars were occupied many hours everyday in cutting a path through the thick jungle of underwood.

The most accessible and fortunately also the most interesting of the forts is that which I have marked as the "Mud fort on the map, at the north-west angle of the Raibaniyan village. This fort is in shape an irregular pentagon, having the following dimensions:—

Eastern wall	.. 1,650 English Yards
Northern	.. 1,650 English Yards
North-Western	.. 880 (about)
South-Western	.. 1,550 (about))
Southern	... 880

There seems to be some sort of order even in the irregularity as the eastern and northern walls are the same length, so also the north-western and southern. The north and south-western, however, are so covered with jungle that it is impossible to arrive at more than an approximate measurement.

Though called the "Mud fort" the walls of this fort are not really of mud. The peasants of the neighbouring villages have made breaches through the walls in some places to enable them to get at their rice-fields in the inside, and in entering the fort by one of these breaches a sort of section is obtained which reveals the nature of the construction. The following section will explain how the wall is made. The centre or heart consists of layers of stone gradually diminishing to a point, and this is covered and entirely hidden with about four feet of earth closely rammed. The breadth at the base from A to B is by measurement 112 feet, and the height we guessed to be about 50 feet.

The wall is surrounded by a deep and broad moat, and a slight but continuous ridge, evidently artificial, runs parallel to the most on its outer edge. Outside all this again, at a distance in some places of as much as half a mile, runs a *nulla* which by a little dexterous cutting and deepening has been made into a very efficacious outer most lined here and there with a wall of laterite.

The interior of the fort is a large plain covered with debris of stone buildings, tanks, and patches of jungle, a considerable portion of it is now cultivated, and near the south wall is the remains of a small indigo factory which was conducted by a European for some years, but has now long ago been abandoned.

The native have a tradition that the north-western corner contained the palace of the Raja, and this is partially confirmed by the greater height and strength of the works in that corner, and by the numerous remains of buildings still traceable. The principal of these I have called the "keep" on the map, as the native assert that it was the highest and strongest part of the fort. It is a strong square tower of which about 20 feet only now remain; the stones are carefully hewn and placed together, but without any traces of cement or mortar. A simple but graceful style of ornament is effected by a straight moulding running round the middle of each course, above which the top of each stone is sloped inwards with a small pineapple shaped projection in the centre. The affect of this arrangement cannot be fully seen owing to the jungle, but when perfectly visible, the broken light and shade produced by it must have lent a peculiar grace and elegance to the otherwise massive and sombre building. In spite of the native idea of its being a keep or citadel, I am disposed to think this building must have been a Shiva temple, as the architecture is precisely similar

to the other ancient temples to that idol in other parts of Orissa, and the dimensions of the building, which is not more than 100 feet square, are too small for the purposes of a citadel. On the top, half hidden by trees, are the capitals of some pillars of the dark ash-coloured stone known as *mungani patthar* or chlorite : none of the column however remain. In the centre is a well or tank similar to the square enclosure round the Linga-stone in Shiva temples: so that I imagine the stone walls must have formed a lofty platform surmounted by an open hall surrounded by pillars, in the centre of which was the Linga in its sunken square enclosure. The capitals, though massive, are quite plain and without ornament.

At the foot of this building on the south side is a curious little hollow where the trees and jungle are perhaps more dense than in other part. This is called the Jaychandi Ban or Jaychand's jungle. Who Jaychand was nobody knows. In the heart of this jungle, approached by a narrow winding path, is a small platform 2 feet high on which have been set up, in quite modern times, some beautiful pieces of sculpture which have probably fallen from the temple above. There is the lower half of a female figure bedecked with jewels, and the legs of a man running both in high relief. There is also an exquisite piece of arabesque carving probably the moulding or edge of the frame enclosing the rilievo. Though much defaced the general design is clearly traceable.\* There is a freedom and graceful play of outline in the rounded foliage which is rare in ancient remains in this part of India. The rest of this moulding is probably hidden beneath the masses of laterite, stones, and debris of all kinds. If I have an opportunity of visiting the spot at any future time, I may succeed in unearthing more of it. The people said they remembered in their youth having seen stones with inscriptions in the Nagari character, but unfortunately knew not where to find them. The Nagari character is not understood by any one, except a very few pandits in this part of the country, and as far as I know was never used in inscriptions, which are all in a bad form of Kutila, but the difference between Kutila and Nagari would not be appreciable by the native here.

The idols and carvings in the Jayachandi Ban are still worshipped, and in consequence, are smeared all over with that mixture of oil and vermilion (*sendur*), which is so freely applied to all sacred buildings and trees. A small plot of rent-free land has been assigned to some Brahmans who carry on the worship at stated seasons, but do not seem able to specify what god the shrine is sacred to. This Jayachandi Ban is evidently a modern arrangement. Someone found these mutilated bits of sculpture and set them up and invited people to worship them, purely as a bit of Brahmanical speculation, and

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\* I have represented the broken and undecipherable portions by cross shading and dotted spaces.

probably the speculator's name was Jayachand. This sort of thing goes on even at the present day: an Uriya will worship anything, especially if he does not know what it is, and a Brahman tells him it is a *debata*.

The western gate of the fort which is close to the Ban, was probably only a sort of postern, as it is only wide enough for one horseman at a time. The sketch below represents its present appearance. In the wall will be noticed the sockets of the hinges of the doors which at one time stood there. Crossing the moat by a strong though narrow bridge, we come to a second doorway, precisely similar to the first. This is merely a gateway in a sort of *tête de pont*, protecting the bridge across the moat.

Moving round to the north wall of the fort, we come upon the largest and most perfect group of remains in the whole building. It is called the Sat Gambhira Attalika literally "palace of the seven deeps"; this name however is a mere modern corruption of *satgumbaz* or 'the seven domes'. The building consists of six large rooms which have evidently at one time been vaulted, and the passage through them or gateway counted as a seventh room which was probably covered in and vaulted like the others. The ground plan is as far as could be made out from the top of the wall at;\*but as a big black bear was sleeping at the foot of the wall in No. 3, and I had unfortunately no gun with me, having brought a sketch-book and measuring rod instead, it was not thought prudent to remain long in that neighbourhood. For the same reason there was not time to make more than a plan of the building with a rough measurement. The covered gateway is about 40 feet wide and 25 feet deep, and rooms Nos. 5 and 6, though so encumbered with rubbish as to be quite inaccessible were judged to be about the same size. This approximation will enable the reader to judge the size of the other rooms. The rest of the palace was probably, as usual in Bengal, built of mud with thatched roofs,—which mode of construction would account for its total disappearance.

The last fort of the group is that which I have called the "Stone Fort", as its walls, as far as they could be seen, are built of hewn stone not covered, as in the other, with mud. It seems more modern than the mud fort, and may either have been originally a mere out-work to the other, which seems improbable

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\* The Uriyas, more so, changed the comparatively little known Persian word *gumbaz* 'a dome', into their own peculiar *gambhira*. The change was probably caused by their approaching the building from the top of the walls, as they took me; seen from this position the rooms look like deep vault, and it was not till I had the jungle cleared from the northern face that I convinced them the rooms were not underground.

\*\* Tree and Serpent Worship, p. 208.



from its nearly equalling it in size, or was more likely as I shall show presently a comparatively modern erection, built when the old fort had become so far ruined as to be no longer tenable.

The eastern entrance is through a vast hall or yard, with walls of hewn stone in which are still to be seen the staples to which, in native tradition, the Rajas, elephants were fastened. This gateway is called the *Hathi dwar* or *Hathi bandha dwar*, (elephant gate, or elephant-enclosure gate). The southern doorway, of which only a crumbled heap of stones remains,—is called the Sonamukhi, or golden faced gate, the origin of which name I cannot trace; but so many places in northern Orissa are called Sonamukhi even bare salt-marshes washed by the sea, that the appellation must be very ancient, and the allusion which it was meant to convey has become obscure. The only suggestion offered is that it refers to the golden face of the idol Jagannath at Puri—miniature copies of which are to be seen in many parts of Orissa. Such an idol may have stood in or near this gateway.

The date of the building of these forts is, like that of every building in India which has no marked architectural features and contains no inscriptions, very uncertain. In the present case, however, the uncertainty is to some extent limited by considerations derived from their geographical position. If it be assumed that they were the work of kings of Orissa, an assumption which I shall consider immediately,—then there are only two brief periods within which they could have been built—those, namely in which the limits of the Oriya monarchy extended so far to the northward as the banks of the Subanrekha river. The general absence of historical data in India prior to the coming of the Muhammadans is, in Orissa, relieved by the scanty and untrustworthy *panji* or daily record of occurrences kept in the national temple of Jagannath, the commission or inaccuracies of which may occasionally be corrected or supplied from the *panjis* and *Vansavalis* kept in the minor temples and monasteries throughout the province and by one or two connected histories written on palm-leaf, which are in the possession of private families.

The chief interest of Oriya history centres round the great cities of the southern part of the province—Katak, Jajpur, and Puri. Northern Orissa is seldom mentioned. Only twice in the annals of the country is it asserted that its boundaries extended beyond the Kansbans, a small stream near Sohroh at that point where the hill-ranges trend eastward to the sea. The long narrow slip between the Kansbans and Subanrekha appears to have been for centuries a forest. This supposition is confirmed by the frequency of names of places in which the word ban (Sansk:vana)

occurs as Banchas, i.e., "forest-tilth", Banahar, i.e., "forest enclosure", Bampadda, i. e., Ban-padda "forest-clearing", Bankati—"forest-cutting", and the like.

In the reign of Gangeshwar Deb (A. D. 1151), the Orissan monarchy is said to have extended from the Ganges to the Godavari. By the Ganges is here of course meant, as always in Oriya history, the branch which flows by Hugli. Whether this is merely an exaggeration or not we cannot tell; it probably is so, as in the celebrated speech of his great-grandson Anang Bhim Deb, the most illustrious prince of the Gangabansi dynasty (A. D. 1196), recorded by Stirling, the king is reported to have said that he had extended the boundaries of his kingdom on the north from the Kansbans to the Datai Burhi river (the modern Buda Balang, which flows past the town of Balasore). The Gangabansis were great builders, and their temples, palaces and tanks still adorn the southern part of the province. I do not think it probable that they would have been contented with so comparatively clumsy and inartistic forts as those now under consideration. I shall show presently another reason for assigning those forts to a much later epoch.

In 1550 the throne of Orissa was occupied by a prince from the Telugu or Telinga country, celebrated under the name of Telinga Mukund Deb. He was the last independent sovereign of Orissa, and of him again it is recorded that his sway extended to Tribeni Ghat on the Hugli river, where he built a temple and bathing-steps. In his reign northern Orissa became for the first time important, for then the invasions of the Musalmans, hitherto few and far between, just began to be constant and successful. "Suliman Gurzani, the Afghan King of Bengal", waged a long war with Mukund Deb, who, to oppose him, built a strong fort in a commanding position in the northern frontier. This fort, or chain of forts, I apprehend to have been those we are now discussing. No more commanding situation could well be found than Raibaniya: on its laterite ridge overlooking the passage of the Subanrekha, and backed by the impenetrable forest. This position too is on the edge of the country inhabited by the Oriya speaking race. The situation of the main entrance, and the much greater strength of the fortifications on the northern side, seem to show that it was from that direction that the danger came. Seven miles west of Raibaniyan is the fort of Deulgaon "temple-village" which as will be seen from the appendix is in still better preservation than Raibaniyan, and, as evidence on its date, contains the two stone horsemen so celebrated in Orissan legend. It is related that when Raja Purushottam Deb was marching (circa A. D. 1490) southwards to the conquest of Kanjiveram (Kanchikaveri), his army was preceded by two youths, one on a black and the

other on a white horse, by whose auspicious aid he gained the victory. The youths then disappeared after declaring themselves to be Krishna and Baladeva\*. The fort which contains these two images cannot well be older than the legend which they preserve.

Further, it may be urged that, in the early times of Gangeshwar Deb, there existed no necessity for strong forts on the northern frontier, which was then inhabited only by wild forest tribes, and whose possession seems to have been little cared for by the Rajas themselves. It was not till the encroachments of the Musalmans of Bengal rendered some resistance necessary that forts would be built and garrisoned so far away from the capital, nor in earlier times had the Oriya race penetrated so far to the north as to have settlements on the banks of the Subanrekha.

On the other hand, if we cannot place the date of the erection of these forts earlier than 1550, we cannot assign to them any later date. After the ravages of the terrible Kalapahar Orissa sank into a condition of anarchy and disorganization. Neither the invaders from Bengal nor the national rulers had any interest in keeping up forts at a place which was no longer important to either, and we find the Afghans immediately afterwards, and for a long period, firmly established at the strong post of Garhpadda, fifteen miles to the south of Raibaniyan.

An important result follows from the above considerations, namely, that the Oriya language is not as a certain party among the Bengalis would persuade us an offshoot of their own tongue, but an independent variety of Aryan speech. We have every reason to believe that the march or, frontier between the two provinces, was occupied by a dense forest peopled by non-Aryan tribes, and that there was absolutely no communication between Orissa and Bengal in that direction; when the forest was penetrated and the communication opened, the Oriya language was already formed, and Upendra Bhanj and Din Krishna Das had written many of their still celebrated poems. Orissa had more intimate dealings with her southern neighbour, and one at least of her dynasties came from the banks of the San-Ganga or Godavari. Even to this day the course of trade from the ports of Orissa tends more towards Madras than Bengal.

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\* The similarity of this legend to that of the appearance of "the great twin-brethren," Castor and Pollux, so vividly related in Macaulay's *Lays of Ancient Rome*, must strike every classical reader.

After returning from Raibaniyan I received the following note from the Revd. J. Phillips, the well-known missionary to the Sonthals, whose settlement is at Santipur, two miles south of Raibaniyan:—

*"Camp Baladashiha, December, 11, 1871*

"On the 2nd instant we were at Deulgaon, about 7 miles to the north-west of Santipur, where at the remains of an old stone fort. It is 75 paces long and 60 broad inside the walls. The walls are 12 feet in height composed of the common laterite, hewn as are the stones in Raibaniyan. The walls are perforated on all sides with loopholes near the top, and there were entrances on the four sides with bastions over the gateways. In one corner of the enclosure there is a small tank and a walled up well in the opposite corner.

A large laterite stone was pointed to me as containing inscriptions, but if such ever existed, it had become quite too much defaced to be at all legible. Two large stone images of horses with their riders, cut from solid blocks of the "Mugani" stone (chlorite), stand near the centre of the fort. When we were there two years ago these lay partially covered with rubbish, but have since been exhumed, and now they receive some attention, though I did not discover signs of their being worshipped. The natives told us that these were living animals in the *Satya Yug*, and engaged in battle, and pointed out scars and bullet marks on their mutilated bodies. The fact of gunpowder being a modern invention seemed no obstacle to their theory as far as I saw".

## APPENDIX II

**Early European Settlements in Balেশwar**

The early European settlements in Balেশwar present some features of considerable historical interest. The town is situated on the western bank of the river Burhabalanga and is only seven miles from the Bay of Bengal as the crow flies. A lot of historical reference is available in the contemporary Muslim and European records regarding the commercial prosperity and transactions in the port and town of Balেশwar. Another port which thrived in the coast of Balেশwar district was Pipili on the mouth of Subarnarekha where at least five European powers such as the Portuguese, the English, the Dutch, the Dane and the French established their early settlements. However, the place was abandoned by the early 17th century probably due to the formation of sand bars on the mouth of the river and other natural difficulties. But Balেশwar grew into prominence as a manufacturing and commercial centre and as a sea port from the thirties of the 17th century. The Portuguese, who dominated the Indian trade in the 16th century, were thoroughly discredited because of their association with the pirates and finally were expelled from the coast of the Bay of Bengal by the Mughals in the early decades of the 17th century. Though they had thriving establishment at Pipili, yet their settlement at Balেশwar is doubtful as there is no conclusive evidence to that effect. However, Stirling, a British Officer in early 19th century claim that in his time the only remains of the Portuguese settlement consisted of a small Roman Catholic chapel having a wooden cross over the principal doorway; but it had now completely disappeared.

Ralph Cartwright established the first British factory at Balেশwar in June, 1633 in the area now known as Barabati. The Madras Council repeatedly resolved to withdraw their factories from the Bengal seaboard, but the settlement was saved by the policy of Cromwell who reorganised the Company on a broader basis in 1657. Hooghly became the head agency in Bengal, and Balেশwar was an out-factory under its control which was administered by a chief with three assistants or councillors. As the Hooghly river was then unsurveyed and without lights or buoy, it was unsafe for large vessels. It was resolved, therefore, to make Balেশwar a port of transshipment, whenever cargoes were carried in native boats round to the Gangetic delta and then, through the river Hooghly to the town. In 1658, the British established their mint at Balেশwar which resulted in increasing the price of silver. The value of *cowries*, the local currency, in relation to rupees varied according to the availability or scarcity of the former.

In 1686 the English settlement at Baleshwar was again nearly abandoned. It was primarily due to the harassment of the Mughal administration in Bengal and Orissa that the British were ousted from Hooghly and took shelter at Hijili in 1687. Job Charnock, the head of the British settlement, resolved to take same reprisals on the Mughal port and town of Baleshwar. He succeeded in his mission and inflicted heavy loss by burning and destroying the place. They plundered even the private merchants and the ships on the docks were burnt. The expedition was passed over with contempt by the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb who was then engrossed in wars in South India. Job Charnock again landed on the bank of Hooghly at Sutanati where he began to build a factory in 1688 and thus laid the foundation of Calcutta. Baleshwar remained unoccupied by the English for some years after this, but when Aurangzeb granted a new *firman* for the re-establishment of their factories in Bengal, Baleshwar factory was probably revived and continued thereafter, though its prominence in the second half of the 18th century had considerably decreased. It is evident from the records of two British travellers, Thomas Motto and C. F. Lockie, who passed through Baleshwar in 1766 and 1790 respectively. The former gives us no information about trade and commercial prosperity of Baleshwar. But the latter categorically writes about its decline. He observed: "Manufacture of cloth is very much fallen off, both in quantity and quality; the ruinous state of the English and Dutch factories, with the insignificance of the Danish one, seem to show that the trade is not of that consequence which it formerly was".

The Dutch had established themselves in 1632 at Pipili and subsequently they also constructed their factory at a place now known as Ulansahi in Baleshwar. The moat round the Dutch factory is now known as Ulannala. Two Dutch tombs of 18 feet and 16 feet high are now within the compound of Barabati Girl's High English school.

The Danish settlement was close to the Dutch one, having an area of seven acres. It is now known as Dinamardinga which is situated near the Barabati Girl's High English School. No monument or other evidence of the Danish settlement is now traceable in Baleshwar except the name of the area.

The French came to Baleshwar after 1667 and established their settlement in the outskirts of the town known as 'Farasdinga'. The French had constructed a thick boundary wall of burnt bricks round their factory which is now in ruins. The French settlement, which was reduced to 38 acres of land, continued under their

possession and was under the administrative authority of Chandan-nagar of Bengal throughout the British rule. However, the Dutch settlement of an area of 7 acres was ceded to the British in 1825 and the land held by the Danes, also 7 acres in area, was ceded to the British in 1846. The graveyards and the names of certain localities are now the only remnants of the early European settlements in Baleshwar.



## CHAPTER III

### PEOPLE

#### POPULATION

Baleshwar is the smallest district of the state in area, but as regards population it ranks sixth among the 13 districts of the state. As per 1981 Census, the district was divided into 3 subdivisions, 9 Tahasils\* and 21 police-stations\*\*. The population\*\*\* of these administrative units is given below.

District/Subdivision/ Tahasil/Police-stations	Males	Females	Total population
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
<b>BALESHWAR DISTRICT</b>	1,139,355	1,113,453	2,252,808
Baleshwar Subdivision			
Baleshwar Tahasil	139,251	128,570	267,821
Baleshwar P.S.	112,306	102,931	215,237
Remuna P.S.	26,945	25,639	52,584
Jaleshwar Tahasil	158,622	152,049	3,10,671
Raibania P.S.	27,227	26,154	53,381
Jaleshwar P.S.	42,140	39,600	81,740
Bhograi P.S.	89,255	86,295	175,550
Basta Tahasil	140,260	134,559	274,819
Baliapal P.S.	48,944	47,608	96,552
Singla P.S.	38,703	36,659	75,362
Basta P.S.	52,613	50,292	1,02,905
Soro Tahasil	183,146	183,070	366,216
Soro P.S.	95,056	93,702	188,758
Khaira P.S.	41,190	42,612	83,802
Similia P.S.	46,900	46,756	93,656
<b>Bhadrak Subdivision</b>			
Bhadrak Tahasil	191,481	189,139	880,620
Bant P.S.	36,622	36,342	72,964
Bhadrak P.S.	104,344	100,354	204,698

\* Tihidi Tahasil has been formed as an addition to the existing 9 Tahasils since the 1st December, 1992.

\*\* Besides, Baleshwar town police-station and Bhadrak town police-station which are functioning in the district since long were not included in the Census list. In the meantime some new police-stations, viz., Khantapada, Oupada, Naikandihi, Dhusuria, Chandipur, Agarpada and Rupsa have been created in the district for better administrative convenience.

\*\*\* Census of India, 1981, Orissa, Final Population Totals, pp. 14—17.

According to Census of India, 1991, Orissa, Paper I of 1991, Provisional Population Totals, the population of Baleshwar district is 2,796,321 (1,420,708 males and 1,375,613 females).



District/Subdivision/ Tahasil/Police-stations	Males	Females	Total population
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Tihidi P. S. (Portion)	50,515	52,443	102,958
Basudebpur Tahasil	74,720	75,414	150,134
Basudebpur P. S.	74,720	75,414	150,134
Chandbali Tahasil	78,933	75,451	154,384
Bansada P. S.	36,124	33,913	70,037
Tihidi P. S. (Portion)	5,599	5,622	11,221
Chandbali P. S.	37,210	35,916	73,126
Dhamnagar Tahasil	103,413	106,530	209,943
Dhamnagar P. S.	67,138	70,290	137,428
Bhandaripokhari P. S.	36,275	36,240	72,515
<b>Nilagiri Subdivision</b>			
Nilagiri Tahasil	69,529	68,671	138,200
Nilagiri P. S.	52,074	51,510	103,584
Berhampur P. S.	17,455	17,161	34,616

### Growth of Population

The table below shows the decennial growth of population of the district from 1901 to 1991.\*

Census Year	Males	Females	Total	Decade variation	percentage decade variations
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1901	552,003	588,099	1,140,102		
1911	538,597	585,685	1,124,282	—15,820	—1.39
1921	498,365	547,361	1,045,726	—78,556	—6.99
1931	514,635	544,559	1,059,194	+13,468	+1.29
1941	547,883	560,892	1,108,775	+49,581	+4.68
1951	556,066	549,946	1,106,012	— 2,763	—0.25
1961	717,340	698,583	1,415,923	+309,911	+28.02
1971	928,342	902,162	1,830,504	+414,581	+29.28
1981	1,139,355	1,113,453	2,252,808	+422,304	+23.07
1991	1,420,708	1,375,613	2,796,321	+543,513	+24.13

\* Census of India, Orissa, 1981, Part II-A, General Population Tables, p. 149 and Census of India, 1991, Orissa, Paper 1 of 1991 Provisional Population Totals, p. 1-33.

The statement reveals that the population of the district which was 1,140,102 in 1901 rose to 2,252,808 in 1981 marking an increase of 197.60 per cent during 80 years. This is more than the state average of 155.94 per cent during the same period.

During the decade\* 1901—11 the district faced agricultural distress and epidemic diseases. Scarcity of food and malnutrition led to increase in death in unprecedented numbers. The natural increase in population was thus checked. Emigration was resorted to which helped further to reduce the population growth by 1.39 per cent in the Census of 1911. Although the decade (1911—21) began well with good harvests during the first four years, the remainder of the decade was a period of bad health and poor harvests. Except in the year 1917, when the number of births was in excess of the number of deaths, the entire period was one of deaths exceeding births. Inadequate rainfall in 1915 and 1916 brought about scarcity of food as well as outbreak of cholera. Failure of crops in 1918 followed by the decimating influenza epidemic shot up the death rate. Due to these factors the population of the district decreased to the extent of 6.99 per cent. The pernicious effects of the devastation of the period 1915-20 continued in the next decade, 1921—31. Recovery from influenza and malaria fever was not seen fully till the close of the decade. During the first seven years, the deaths outnumbered the births, but some improvement in public health was noticed during the last three years. The death rate came down and the Census of 1931 showed a small increase of 1.29 per cent.

The decade 1931—41 was a comparatively prosperous period even though there was inadequate rainfall in 1934, 1935 and 1939 and floods in 1933 and 1940 damaged the crops. But during the remaining years the harvests were good. Outbreaks of epidemics, like cholera and fever in the years 1935, 1936 and 1939 caused some distress. In spite of that the Census of 1941 recorded a moderate increase of population to the extent of 4.68 per cent over the population of 1931.

The period 1941—51 was again a calamitous decade. Insufficient rains and failure of crops in 1941 was followed by a severe cyclone in 1942 which devastated extensive areas. Roofs were blown off and houses collapsed. Animal and bird life almost completely perished. Boats capsized and a large number of cattle and about 291 persons lost their lives. In the year 1943 damage to crops was repeated while a strong easterly wind caused saline inundation of crops in 1944. There after floods became a common feature

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\*Census year—Sun rise of 1st March.

almost every year. Public health deteriorated badly and rigours of fever reappeared. Fever, cholera and small-pox increased the death rate between 1941 to 1947. Some improvement in health condition was noticeable after 1948. The Census of 1951 showed a decline in population growth by 0.25 per cent.

The decade 1951—61 was an era of peace and prosperity. This was reflected in the phenomenal growth of population. The entire district was covered by the Community Development and National Extension Service Blocks. Intensive drive for the restoration of public health yielded good results and the death rate was cut short considerably. Agricultural extension programme enhanced the exportable capacity of paddy, which used to be sent outside the state. Rice mills grow in number throughout the district. Further development was achieved in various fields, such as, lift irrigation, spread of education, extension of medical facilities in towns and rural areas and improvement of road communication. When the district was passing through the decade of multi-sided developments, the floods of 1955 and 1960 caused dislocation in the progress. Except these two years of natural calamities the decade was a period of agricultural and general economic prosperity. The Census of 1961 booked the first ever high growth of population which stood at 1,415,923 with an increase of 28.02 per cent. It had crossed the population level of 1901 for the first time after six decades and an impressive event in history of its population growth. The spectacular population growth has produced very high densities exceeding the state average. This is the only district where the density as well as the population growth have crossed the state average in all the police-stations with the sole exception of Bhandaripokhari police-station.

The decade 1961—71 has registered the highest (29.28 per cent) growth of population. It is higher than the state average of 25.05 per cent. The reasons for the growth of population are control of epidemics, improved public health, good harvests, industrial and commercial development at Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Chandbali. Flood and cyclone which are regular features in Baleshwar district do not appear to have affected the growth of population. All these factors helped to record the third highest population growth in the state.

The decade 1971—81 has recorded 23.07 per cent growth of population in the district. This is 6.21 per cent less than the previous decade.

The last decade 1981-91 has recorded 24.13 per cent growth of population in the district. But this growth is higher than the state average of 19.50 per cent.

### Density

The density of population varies from decade to decade. It can be seen from the table given below.

Census year	Density of population per sq. km.	
	Baleshwar District	Orissa State
(1)	(2)	(3)
1961	221	113
1971	286	141
1981	357	169
1991 (Provisonal)	443	202

The density of population of Baleshwar district continue to be high in the Censuses of 1961, 1971, 1981 and 1991. It has crossed the state average all the times. The high density is due to fertile land.

The Census of 1961 recorded the highest density of population in Baleshwar subdivision and the lowest in Nilagiri subdivision which is one of the most underdeveloped areas of the district. Further analysis reveals that Jaleshwar Tahasil is the most densely (461 persons per sq. km.) inhabited area whereas Nilagiri Tahasil is the most sparsely (203 persons per sq. km.) inhabited area in the district. Among the police-stations, Bhograï tops the list with 600 persons per sq. km. and Nilagiri ranks the lowest with 202 persons. Of the six urban centres\* in the district, Baleshwar, the district headquarters leads with 3,385 persons per sq. km.

### Rural Population

The total number of villages in the district is 4,340 of which 3,832 are inhabited as per 1981 Census. The total rural population of the district\*\* is 2,066,845 (1,040,612 males and 1,026,233 females) giving an average of 541 persons per inhabited village against 499 for the state as a whole. The proportion of rural population to the total population of the district is 91.74 per cent. This proportion is higher than the state which is 88.20 per cent. In the statement, at page 116 the proportion of different size of villages to the total number of villages and the population of such villages to the total rural population is shown according to the Census of 1981.

\*There were seven urban centres in 1991.

\*\*The 1991 Census (provisonal) has recorded 2,531,825 persons (1,281,086 males and 1,250,769 females) in rural areas of the district.

Villages with population	No. of villages	Percentage of No. of villages in this range to total No. of villages	Rural population	Percentage of population in this range to total rural population
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Less than 200 ..	1,122	29.27	118,985	5.76
200—499 ..	1,318	34.40	437,944	21.19
500—999 ..	842	21.97	587,443	28.42
1,000—1,999 ..	432	11.27	575,140	27.83
2,000—4,999 ..	111	2.90	301,976	14.61
5,000—9,999 ..	7	0.18	45,357	2.19
10,000 and above ..	..	..	..	..

It is evident from the foregoing statement that the number of villages with population having less than 500 is the highest in the district. These villages constitute 63.67 per cent of the total number of villages. The villages of this category accommodated 26.95 per cent of the total rural population of the district. These figures though significant, have registered a fall when compared to the 1971 Census figures which recorded 70.09 per cent and 33.53 per cent respectively. Correspondingly an increase in the percentage of medium and large-sized villages is noticed. This trend is in par with the state figures. In the entire state of Orissa, there are 48 villages with a population of 5,000 and above. Out of these large-sized villages, seven are in Baleshwar district. The list is given below\*:

Name of police-station	No. of villages	Population
(1)	(2)	(3)
Baleshwar ..	2	11,845
Singla ..	1	8,403
Baliapal —	1	5,248
Basudebpur —	2	13,829
Bhadrak ...	1	6,032

\* Census of India, 1981 Orissa, Part II A, General Population Tables, pp. 168-69.

### Urban Population

The Urban population of the district is 264, 496 (139, 642 males and 124,854 females) according to 1991 Census (Provisional). The proportion of urban population to the total population of the district is 9.46 per cent which is less than the corresponding state figure of 13.43 per cent. The following statement gives a picture of the growth of population in towns since 1901.\*

Name of town	Population				
	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Baleshwar ..	20,880	21,362	17,037	17,843	19,405
Bhadrak ..	18,518	18,578	18,175	18,283	19,550
Jaleshwar ..	..	..	..	..	..
Chandbali ..	..	..	..	..	..
Soro ..	..	..	..	..	..
Basudebpur ..	..	..	..	..	..
Nilagiri ..	..	..	..	..	..

Name of town	Population				
	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991 (P)
(1)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Baleshwar ..	22,851	33,931	46,239	65,779	102,504
Bhadrak ..	18,795	25,285	40,487	60,600	76,390
Jaleshwar ..	..	10,202	6,711	13,146	16,790
Chandbali ..	..	9,406	6,717	7,808	8,185
Soro ..	..	13,081	Declassified	18,599	22,726
Basudebpur ..	..	..	..	20,031	25,101
Nilagiri ..	..	..	..	..	12,800

\* Census of India, 1981, Orissa, Part II A. General Population Tables, pp. 224-32 and Census of India, 1991, Orissa, paper 1 of 1991 Provisional Population Totals Supplement, pp. 81-85.

It appears from the census records that Baleshwar and Bhadrak were the two towns in the district from 1901 to 1951. Jaleshwar, Chandbali and Soro acquired urban status in 1961. Thus the number of towns increased from two in 1951 to five in 1961. In 1971, Soro lost its urban status owing to change in the definition of urban areas. As a result, the number of towns was reduced from five to four.

In 1981, Soro and Basudebpur attained urban status. This helped to increase urban population from 100,154 in 1971 to 185,963 in 1981 and number of towns from four to six. Nilagiri urban area with population 12,800 got urban status. As a result, number of towns increased again from six to seven according to 1991 Census (provisional).

Baleshwar Urban Agglomeration which includes Baleshwar Municipality (population 86,116) and Baleshwar Industrial Estate (population 16,388) is classified under class I town in 1991 Census (provisional), Bhadrak is the only class II town. Basudebpur and Soro are placed under class III town. According to population, Jaleshwar and Nilagiri are treated as class IV town. Chandbali is the only class V town in the district.

Further analysis of the statement shows that the population of Baleshwar, the district headquarters, grew from 65,779 to 102,504 during the period 1981—91. Similarly, Bhadrak town also recorded rise in population from 60,600 to 76,390 during the same period. The decennial growth rate of population of this subdivisional headquarters town is 26.06 per cent. This is lower than the previous decade, 1971—81, which was 49.68 per cent. The people of both the towns are engaged in trade and commerce, services and industries.

Jaleshwar is a commercial town. It is situated to the north of Baleshwar. The population of this town rose from 13,146 to 16,790 during the decade 1981—91. This decade has registered 27.72 per cent growth of urban population. The main activities of the people are confined to betel leaves, manufacture of mat and its allied products.

The growth of population of Soro town during the decade 1981—91 is +22.19 per cent. The town is reached both by road and by rail.

Basudebpur town is situated near the Bay of Bengal. Fish is generally exported from this town. The town has recorded +25.31 per cent rise in population during the decade 1981—91.

Chandbali is a small town. It was once a flourishing port on the left bank of the river Baitarani. The main export through this port town was rice and the chief import was kerosene oil, salt and cotton. Hence the activities of the people are confined to trade and commerce, industry and transport. The growth of population of this town is +4.83 per cent in 1981—91, the lowest among the urban areas of the district.

### Displaced persons

During the partition of the country large number of persons from West Pakistan (present Pakistan) and East Pakistan (present Bangladesh) were displaced. They were settled in different parts of the country. The total number of such migrants to the state of Orissa from 1946 to 1951 was 20,039. Of the displaced persons 2,429 persons have settled in Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Nilagiri subdivisions of the Baleshwar district. Among the subdivisions Baleshwar subdivision had provided settlement to 2,216 persons. Barring 97 from West Pakistan, the rest came from East Pakistan. In rural area, such persons numbered 2,163 (1,108 males and 1,055 females). Various facilities were provided to rehabilitate them and loans were also given to enable them to become self-sufficient.

Recently, Government of India have decided to establish a National Testing Range for testing rockets, missiles and satellites in the coastal belt of Baliapal police-station of Baleshwar district. As a result, 54 villages would be affected and 40,793 persons would be displaced.

### Age-group

Percentage distribution of population by sex and age in 1971 is given below\* :

Age-group	Males	Females	Total	Percentage to total population of the district
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
0-14 years	409,503	406,385	815,888	44.6
15-59 years	458,851	436,801	895,652	48.9
60 years and above	59,901	58,922	118,823	6.5

\* A Portrait of Population, Orissa, 1971, p. 158 and 172.



It is noticed from the table that a large percentage (44.6 per cent) of young population in the age-group (0—14) is found in the district. It is higher than the state average of 42.4 per cent. The largest proportion of young population is found in the Kalahandi district (45.0 per cent) and the lowest proportion of the youthful age-group is seen in Sambalpur district (38.6 per cent).

Coming to the working age-group (15—59), the district of Balেশwar attracts our attention with the lowest proportion of population, i.e., 48.9 per cent. In this category, the highest proportion is found in Sambalpur district (54.6 per cent).

The statement also shows that age-group 60 and above constitute 6.5 per cent of the district population. It is higher than the state figure of 6.0 per cent. Four districts, viz., Cuttack, Sambalpur, Puri and Ganjam have more than 6 per cent of their respective population in this age-group.

Further analysis of the 1971 Census reveals that the lowest proportion of the population in this age-group is found in Koraput, Sundargarh and Kendujhar districts. The proportion of Koraput district (3.8 per cent) in particular is much lower than the other districts and points to the fact that a large proportion of persons in this district die before they reach the sixties.

According to 1981 Census 937,418 persons (41.6 per cent) are found in the age-group 0-14. The next age-group 15-59 recorded 1,167,871 persons (51.9 per cent). In the age-group 60 and above only 147,066 persons (6.5 per cent) are noticed. Percentage of population in age-groups 0-14 and 60+ are almost dependent on the percentage of population in age group 15-19. Balেশwar district is the highest in recording the dependency ratio of 93 per 100. The lowest dependency ratio is recorded in Koraput and Mayurbhanj as 79.

### Sex ratio

According to the 1991 Census (provisional) the male-female ratio in the district was 968 females per 1,000 males. In the rural areas the ratio was 976:1,000 while in the urban areas it was 894:1,000. For Orissa state taken as a whole the ratio was 972 females per 1,000 males, the corresponding figures for the rural and urban areas of the whole state being 989:1,000 and 866:1,000 respectively. The table at page 121 shows the male-female ratio (females per 1,000 males) in rural, urban and total from 1901 to 1991\*.

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\*Census of India, Orissa, part II A, 1981, p. 147 and Census of India, 1991, Orissa. Paper I of 1991, Provisional population Totals, pp. 76-77.

Year	Number of females per 1,000 males		
	Rural	Urban	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1901	1,068	1,007	1,065
1911	1,090	1,012	1,087
1921	1,103	977	1,098
1931	1,064	894	1,058
1941	1,028	910	1,024
1951	993	884	989
1961	983	846	974
1971	979	848	972
1981	986	883	977
1991 (P)	976	894	968

It is noticed from the table that the sex ratio rose from 1065 in 1901 to 1098 in 1921. Thereafter it declined in successive censuses and reached at 972 in 1971. The Census of 1981 recorded 977 which is higher than the previous year. In 1991 (p), it declined again to 968. The scarcity of women is observed in the district from 1951. The reasons may be due to birth of more male than female babies, mortality among female infants and maternal mortality due to malnutrition, disease and frequent child bearing under poor medical care.

Further analysis reveals that the district has higher female ratio in rural areas than urban. This is probably due to protracted absence of male members who have moved out of the villages for employment in urban areas and therefore the absentees are not the census figures of rural areas.

### Migration

In 1971\* the migrants to this district constituted 6.09 per cent of the total population of whom 2.66 per cent were born outside the state. The migrants from outside the state hailed from Andhra Pradesh (1820), Assam (35), Bihar (1540), Gujarat (285), Haryana (215), Himachal Pradesh (85), Jammu & Kashmir (10), Kerala (65), Madhya Pradesh (120), Maharashtra (145), Mysore (Karnataka) (30), Punjab (110), Rajasthan (1005), Tamil Nadu (335), Tripura (20), Uttar Pradesh (635), West Bengal (40,405), and Delhi (20). As this district is on the border of West Bengal, the largest number of immigrants have come from that state. The immigrants from countries like Burma (Myanmar), Nepal, Pakistan and elsewhere to this district numbered 1825. Of these 985 persons were from Pakistan, persons born in Europe and Africa are not significant. The distribution of population on the basis of place of birth is as follows\*\*.

Place of birth	Males	Females	Total	Percentage to total population
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Born in place of enumeration	8,30,181	4,81,894	1,312,075	71.68
Born elsewhere in the district of enumeration	61,991	3,44,783	4,06,774	22.22
Born in other districts of the state	19,695	43,035	62,730	3.43
Born in other state in India	15,505	31,375	46,880	2.56
Born in countries in Asia beyond India (including U. S. S. R.).	935	875	1,810	0.10
Born in Europe (excluding U. S. S. R.)	5	..	5	Negligible
Born in Africa	10	..	10	Negligible
Unclassifiable	20	200	220	Negligible

\*Census of India, Orissa, 1971, Migration Tables, Part II-D, pp. 18—20.

\*\*In 1981, the migrants to this district constituted 6.42 per cent of the total population of whom 2.52 per cent were born outside the state.

The predominance of females in all the categories of migrants, except those born at the place of enumeration, indicates that they have moved from one village to another and from one police-station to another consequent to their marriage, while participation in economic pursuits may be the secondary aspects thereof.

### Physically handicapped persons

There are 3,906 physically handicapped persons in the district. Number of such persons category-wise is given below according to 1981 Census\*.

Area	Disabled population by type of disability			
	Totally blind	Totally crippled	Totally dumb	Total disabled persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Rural ..	1,544	1,374	785	3,703
Urban ..	77	71	55	203
Total ..	1,621	1,445	840	3,906

It is evident from the table that majority of the disabled persons are rural dwellers. Among the disabled persons totally blind persons are found in large numbers in the district.

### LANGUAGE

The district of Baleshwar presents a colourful confluence of tribal and non-tribal languages. Santali, Bhumij, Mundari and Kui tribal languages are mainly found in high proportion in Baleshwar and Nilagiri subdivisions. The concentration of non-tribal languages, viz., Oriya, Urdu, Bengali, Hindi and Telugu are more in Baleshwar and Bhadrak subdivisions than in Nilagiri.

\*Census of India, Orissa, 1981, Table on House and Disabled Population, p. 39.

The following table gives the distribution of population according to language in Baleshwar district as per the 1981 Census\*.

Name of mother-tongue	No. of speakers	Percentage to total population
(1)	(2)	(3)
Oriya ..	1,979,246	88.31
Urdu ..	84,657	3.78
Santali ..	62,663	2.80
Bengali ..	58,837	2.62
Munda ..	14,398	0.64
Hindi ..	7,326	0.33
Bhumij ..	6,504	0.29
Kui ..	5,824	0.26
Mundari ..	5,594	0.25
Others ..	16,155	0.72
<b>Total</b> ..	<b>2,241,204</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The main spoken language of the district is Oriya which is the language of literature, business and correspondence. The tribal language speakers live in close contact with speakers of non-tribal language speakers. They have adopted Oriya, Hindi and Bengali languages to some extent. The amount of admixture varies from place to place. Due to spread of education and cultural contact, a number of persons speak a language subsidiary to their mother-tongue. Oriya is the most important subsidiary language of all the non-Oriya speakers in the district. Hindi, Bengali English and Santali are the other important subsidiary languages.

### Scripts

Oriya is the predominant language and is spoken as mother-tongue throughout the district. For obvious reasons the people use Oriya scripts in their day-to-day life. In olden days some letters of the Oriya alphabet were written in a different scripts known as *Karani* to facilitate writing on the palm-leaf with the help of a stylus. Most of the old Oriya records and palm-leaf manuscripts made use of the *Karani* script.

\* A Portrait of Population, Orissa, 1981, pp. 248—96.

The people speaking other Indian languages use their respective standard scripts.

The tribals who speak Santali, Kol, Bhumij, Mundari, Kui and other tribal languages generally use Oriya script while writing their dialects.

#### RELIGION

The Hindus are the majority in the district. They are followed by the Muslims and the Christians. The strength of other followers are negligible in the district. The following table presents the distribution of population by religion as per the 1981 Census\*.

Name of the religion	Number of followers			Percentage to total population
	Rural	Urban	Total	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Hindus ..	2,009,227	1,43,429	2,152,656	95.55
Muslims ..	49,413	40,208	89,621	3.98
Christians ..	2,721	1,516	4,237	0.19
Sikhs ..	46	108	154	0.01
Buddhists ..	..	29	29	N
Jains ..	14	121	135	0.01
Other religions and persuasions	5,361	552	5,913	0.26
Religion not stated ..	63	..	63	N

It is seen from the table that less numerous communities have flourished mainly in the urban areas and numerically preponderant communities in the rural areas. It is also evident from the census report that the rate of growth of the Hindu population has decreased and that of Muslims, Christians and other religions increased during the decade 1971-81.

\*Census of India, 1981, Household Population by Religion of Head of Household, pp. 44-47.

'N' means negligible.

### Hinduism

In 1981, 95.55 per cent of the people in the district professed Hinduism. Among the Hindus some of the people are tribals. They follow Animism. In course of time their religion has been blended with Hinduism. The process of assimilation appears to be due to cultural contact. They worship stones in the deep forest. They usually offer uncooked food to stones which they called deities. After arrival of the civilised Aryans the situation changed. The Aryans discarded the process and began worshipping carved stone images and offered cooked food to the deities. This two-fold worship co-exists not only in Balেশwar but also in other districts of the state. The common people worship their shapeless stone deities with simple rites in the open air. By the side of the deities, temples are found where carved images are worshipped with elaborate rites. These stocks and stones are called Grama Devati or Thakurani. Every village pays homage to these deities and worship her as the tutelary goddess of their small community. The shapeless stone goddesses are smeared with vermilion and surrounded by smaller pieces of stone which represent her children. These are also vermilion-daubed and shapeless. In some places the trunk of some trees supposed to possess supernatural properties are smeared with vermilion and worshipped as the village goddess. Usually the Grama Devatis are worshipped by the non-priestly castes, viz., the Bhandari, Mali, Raul or Dhoba. The deities are worshipped daily but it is held with great pomp and ceremony on the Mahastami day of the Durga Puja. The deities are also worshipped on special occasions like outbreak of epidemic, famine, etc. The priests get remuneration from the villagers for their services.

The people in the villages believe in Kalasi. Kalasi is a man or woman who is periodically possessed by the spirit of a deity and pronounces inspired oracles. When a person is being influenced by Thakurani or spirit of a deity, he begins to tremble with dishevelled hair. At that time he tells the wishes and decrees of the Thakurani to the public. When the spirit leaves, the person again act as a common man or woman.

In certain villages goddesses are regarded as "Parama Vaishnavis" or devoted followers of Vishnu and animal sacrifices are not allowed before them. Probably owing to the spread of Vaishnavism, such sacrifices are only made sparingly before the other goddesses. But on the Mahastami day of Durga Puja and other special Pujas offered in fulfilment of vows, animals are generally sacrificed. Some domesticated birds and animals like fowls, goats and sheep are dedicated to the local goddess.

The Hindus are polytheists. They use to go to the temples of Siva, Narayan, Devi, etc., in the mornings and in the evenings. They worship their gods and goddesses with flowers and sandal paste singing Bhajans or hymns, ringing bells and holding lighted lamps. The worshippers receive holy water, leaves of Tulasi plant or Bel and Prasad. Generally in a Hindu household when a child is seriously ill, the parents make religious vows to offer special Puja before some deity for the recovery of the child and perform Puja in the prescribed manner. In case it is not done a fresh danger of a more serious magnitude is apprehended. Women also offer special Puja to deities in the hope of having male issues.

The Hindus worship the Sun-god daily while bathing and a libation of water is made in his honour. Many abstain from eating non-vegetarian diet on Sunday as it is the sacred day for Sun-god. The Earth is described as the holy mother of all living things and the giver of all good and is regarded as a benignant female deity. The people worship the Earth goddess during agricultural operations. Besides the Sun and the Earth, the planets like *Sani* and *Rahu* are also worshipped on certain occasions.

The Pipal (*Ficus religiosa*), Banyan (*Ficus bengalensis*), Bel (*Aegle marmelos*), mango (*Mangifera indica*), Anla (*Phyllanthus emblica*), Duba (*Cynodon dactylon*), Asoka (*Janesia asoka saraca indica*), Barkuli (*zezyphus*), Bakul (*Minusops elengi*) and Tulasi (holy basil) are held sacred by the Hindus. In almost every Hindu household there is a *chaura* or a sacred place where Tulasi plant is planted and worshipped. Every evening lighted wicks are offered by the housewife before the *chaura*.

The Commissioner, Hindu Religion Endowment, Orissa, has recorded six hundred Hindu religious institutions in Balashwar district. Subdivision-wise break-up are given below :

Subdivision	Number of Hindu Religious Institutions
Balashwar	296
Bhadrak	214
Nilagiri	90
Total	600



### Saivism

Lord Siva is one of the trinity of the Hindu pantheon. He possessed benign qualities. For this Siva has become a very popular God among the common people. Usually Siva is represented by the phallic symbol, the Linga and the Yoni enshrined in the temple. Siva shrines with Siva's trident at the top adorn many villages in the district. Of the Siva temples, the temple at Aradi, Baleshwar, Chandaneswar and Ayodhya are well-known and attract large number of visitors. It is believed that persons bitten by snake are cured, if they are brought to the temple of Akhandalamani Mahadeb at Aradi. It is reckoned as one of the chief centres of Siva worship in the district. Baneswar Mahadeb at Baleshwar is also important. The name of the town Baleshwar is believed to be a corruption of Baneswar, the name derived from the Siva temple of Lord Baneswar. The village Chandaneswar in Baleshwar subdivision contains a temple dedicated to Chandaneswar Mahadeb who is believed to have the power of curing diseases. With the hope of being cured, sick persons go to the temple and lie prostrate for days together before the image observing a rigorous fast.

Sivaratri is the principal festival of Lord Siva. The orthodox devotees mark three horizontal lines of sandal wood paste on their forehead as religious mark and wear '*Rudrakshya mala*' round their neck to identify their sect.

### Saktism

Sakti is worshipped in several forms of which Bhadrakali near Bhadrak, Kali at Bhadrak, Ankudasuni at Guagadia, Brahmani at Avana, Tara at Ayodhya, Baseli Thakurani at Badagan near Soro, Sarbamangala Devi at Kasiari near Jaleshwar and Durga at Remuna are mainly important. Sakti is also worshipped in the villages in the form of folk goddesses. The blessings of the deities are invoked in wedding and other ceremonial occasions and at the time of sickness. To please the deity animals, viz., goats and fowls are sacrificed on any Sakti shrines of the district specially on the Mahastami day of the Durga Puja.

### Vaishnavism

Vaishnavism spread in Orissa during the Ganga period and is the prevailing religion even to-day. The principal villages of the district has one or more temples dedicated to Vishnu in his popular form—Jagannath and his two companions Balabhadra and Subhadra. The existence of the temples and Mathas have exerted much influence on the popular faith. A number of

Vaishnava saints and prophets have visited Orissa to propagate their cult and founded Mathas but the chief prophet of Vaishnavism is Shri Chaitanya. He made Vaishnavism the religion of the masses.

Shri Chaitanya was a great reformer and his cult represents a revulsion against the gross and debasing religion of the Tantras. He accepted followers from all sections of the society irrespective of caste and vehemently opposed the practice of animal sacrifice. A peculiarity of Chaitanya's cult is that the post of the spiritual guide or *gossain* is not confined to the Brahmins only.

Though he was born at Navadvipa, he had spent the best part of his life in Puri, Orissa. During his journey to Puri he had passed through Jaleswar and Remuna of Balashwar district. Other places of this district associated with his memory are Amarda, Sundarkuli and Sainthia near Bhadrak. A list of Mathas and temples dedicated to Shri Chaitanya in Balashwar district is given below\*.

Name of Mathas/Temples	Place
1 Chaitanya-Nityananda	Mangalpur, P. O. Soro
2 Chaitanya	Nuagan, P. O. Bankipara
3 Chaitanya-Nityananda	Dayisingh, P. O. Kaupur
4 Chaitanya—Jin	Totapada, P. O. Ghanteswar
5 Chaitanya Mahaprabhu	Basudebpur
6 Nitai Gaur	Bhadrak
7 Chaitanya Mahaprabhu	Mahapada
8 Chaitanya-Nityananda	Damodarpur near Balashwar

### Mahima Dharma

The founder of Mahima Dharma or Alekha Dharma is Mahima Gossain. His disciples believe that he is an incarnation of Param Brahma. The main centre of this religion is at Joranda in Dhenkanal district. Abadhuta Biswanath Das Baba is the living head of the cult. \*\*Abadhuta Sanyasis of Mahima cult visit different places of the Balashwar district and preach Mahima Dharma. A large number of followers are found at Bhadrak, Balashwar, Khaira, Bant, Soro, Jaleswar, Baliapal and Langaleswar. Alekha Tungis and Ashramas are also found in these places. A detailed account of this cult can be found in Orissa District Gazetteer, Dhenkanal (1972).

\* History of the Chaitanya Faith in Orissa by Prabhat Mukherjee, 1979, p. 114.

\*\* Abadhuta Biswanath Das Baba passed away on the 16th May, 1992.

### Christianity

According to 1981 Census, 0.19 per cent of the total population of the district profess Christianity. This proportion is relatively low in comparison to other districts. Sundargarh district has the largest percentage (15.91) of Christians and Dhenkanal the lowest (0.09). It is also learnt that the Christian population of the district has increased by 60.43 per cent during the decade 1971-81.

Mainly two denominations, viz., the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society and the Roman Catholic Mission are found in the district. The former Mission started work in Baleshwar in 1836. It has also stations at Chandbali, Bhadrak, Chardia, Nilagiri, Kundupur, Hatigarh, Jaleshwar, Kusudia, Betnasia, Ujurda, Bansbonia, Rangiam and Mitrapur. The work of the mission is now supervised by the Christian Service Society whose head office is at Scopoy Bazar, Midnapur, West Bengal. Church programmes of the mission are carried on through preaching to non-Christians and programmes of moral development through meetings and conferences.

The mission runs a number of educational institutions in the district. Of these, the name of Baleshwar Technical School; Christian High School, Baleshwar; Mission Girls' High School, Baleshwar; Mission Upper Primary School, Baleshwar; Deaf and Dumb School, Baleshwar; Hatigarh High School and Hatigarh M. E. School may be specially mentioned. Miss S. Powers of the mission is in charge of the Deaf and Dumb School. She is also the Secretary of the Mission Girls' High School and U. P. School, Baleshwar.

Medical programmes of the mission are carried on through Nekursini Christian Hospital, Midnapur. The hospital conducts clinics for leprosy patients at Hatigarh in Baleshwar district. Mobile clinics of the said hospital also go to different places of the district to treat patients.

Rev. B. E. Weidman and Mrs. P. J. Weidman of the mission took interest in Rural Development Programmes and taught farmers about the scientific method of cultivation of rice, wheat and pisciculture. They supplied seeds, plants and fertilisers for cultivation. They also provided wells for drinking water.

The Roman Catholic Mission is functioning at Baleshwar, Mitrapur, Basta, Jaleshwar and Hatigarh. Besides preaching, the mission runs an orphanage.

### Islam

Islam numerically was the third most important religion in the state in 1981. It has the highest concentration in Baleshwar district (3.97 per cent). Next in order are Cuttack (3.63 per cent), Sundargarh

(2.32 per cent) and Puri (2.16 per cent). They constitute less than one per cent of the population in the district of Phulabani, Dhenkanal, Balangir, Kalahandi, Ganjam, Koraput, Sambalpur, Mayurbhanj and Kendujhar.

In Balashwar district, Muslims are found mostly in the subdivisions of Balashwar and Bhadrak. They have constructed mosques in a number of places to offer prayer. The distribution of mosques, spiritual shrines, grave-yards and idgahs are given below.\*

Sl. No.	Name of police-station	No. of Masjids	No. of spiritual shrines	No. of grave-yards	No. of Idgahs
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	Balashwar ..	31	51	13	2
2	Remuna ..	7	8	4	..
3	Basta ..	12	21	6	2
4	Baliapal ..	4	25	5	1
5	Singala ..	5	4	4	..
6	Jalashwar ..	6	11	9	2
7	Bhograi ..	10	15	5	2
8	Raibania ..	14	1	2	1
9	Soro ..	8	19	11	1
10	Similia ..	9	16	2	1
11	Khaira ..	3	8	5	2
12	Bhadrak ..	45	85	112	3
13	Tihidi ..	7	13	3	1
14	Bant ..	6	11	3	1
15	Basudebpur ..	8	22	5	..
16	Dhamnagar ..	18	34	18	4
17	Chandbali ..	5	4	2	..
18	Nilagiri ..	..	..	1	..
Total		185	348	210	23

\*Commissioner of Wakfs, Orissa, Cuttack.

The Jama Masjid at Sunhat (Baleshwar town) is the oldest mosque in the district. It was constructed during the reign of Aurangzeb, the Mughal Emperor.

The majority of the Muslims belong to Suni sect. There are also Ahemadia Muslims in the district.

There are two most important Muslim shrines in the district. One is Shah Swaleh Mohammed popularly Known as Bhujakhia Pir in Baleshwar town. Both Hindus and Muslims offer 'Sirini' in the shrine with devotion. Another shrine at Dhamnagar has come up recently after the death of Moulana Habibur Rahman, a Muslim saint. The devotees from all over the country come to this place for 'Ziarat'. At the time of annual Urs' about 2 to 3 lakhs devotees assemble at Dhamnagar for "Fateha" and 'Sirini'.

### **Sikhism**

The Sikhs numbered 154 according to the Census of 1981. They are mostly found in Baleshwar and Bhadrak. The Sikhs believe in one God and is a classless and casteless society. They follow the teachings of the ten Gurus and the saints enshrined in the Holy Book of the Sikhs, the 'Granth Sahib'. The followers of this religion have constructed one Gurudwara within the limits of Proof and Experimental centre at Chandipur. This is run by the Defence Services staff and they celebrate all the important festivals of the Sikh religion. There is another Gurudwara which has come up in 1970 on the National Highway No. 5 at the crossing of the road to Remuna. This is named as Gurudwara Sahib. It is managed by the local Sikhs. There is a priest who looks after the rituals. They also run a Charitable Homeopathic Dispensary in the Gurudwara.

At Bhadrak there is a temple called Gurudwar Satsang. It is said that Guru Nanak during his travels in this part of the country took rest here. One of the devotees has been maintaining this spot, for his memory. Towards 1972, the Sikhs of Bhadrak converted this hamlet into a pucca Gurudwara.

### **Buddhism**

Buddhist monuments are found at Avana, Ayodhya, Kaupur, Kharipada, Kupari and Sohanpur in the district. But in 1981 Census 29 persons are found to have professed this religion.

### **Jainism**

There were 135 Jains in the district as per 1981 Census. They are mainly immigrants from outside the state. Bhimpur, Charampa and Manikchak are important centres of Jainism in Baleshwar district.

### **CASTES**

Caste plays an important role in the socio-economic life of the people of the district. For a detailed description of each caste, caste-wise population figures are essential. But since 1951, no enumeration in regard to different castes is being made in the censuses. In the absence of such statistics much of the valuable information relating to the life and economy of the people could not be incorporated in the present work. However, a brief account of different castes is given below.

### **Aswini Tanti**

They belong to the weaving caste and were skilled weavers in the past. In course of time due to competition with millmade cloths they could not prosper in their economic pursuit. Nowadays some of them are following other avocations to improve their living standard.

### **Badhei**

The Badheis belong to the Biswakarma community which also includes Kamars and Pathurias. The Badheis, Kamaras and Pathurias work on wood, iron and stone respectively. They worship Biswakarma, the Maker of the Universe. Marital relationship within the three groups, viz., Badhei, Kamar and Pathuria are allowed.

### **Bania**

The Banias are makers of gold and silver ornaments. They also prepare anthropomorphic and zoomorphic figurines. Two types of Banias are noticed in the district. They are Putuli Bania and Sunari Bania. The strength of the latter is more than the former.

### **Bhandari**

The Bhandaris are known as Barika or Napitas. They are barbers by profession. The services of male and female barbers are indispensable on the occasions of marriage, birth and death. They get remuneration both in cash and kind. They are generally divided into three classes, viz., Kanamuthia, Chamamuthia and Lamahata. The Kanamuthia barber carries his

hair-cutting and saving implements in a bag of cloth whereas the Chamamuthia carries them in a leather bag. And the Lamahata barber carries the lighted torches (Masals) on ceremonial occasions. Some of them have abandoned traditional pattern and maintain hair-cutting saloons in different localities.

### **Brahmin**

The Brahmins, though not very numerous, are a very important caste in the district due to their high social status. They are divided into several sub-castes of which Sasani, Sarua or Paniari, Panda, Pujari or Deulia, Marhia and Mastani Brahmins are important. The Sasani Brahmins act as priests, spiritual guides and teachers. The Sarua or Paniari Brahmins grow and sell vegetables. The Panda, Pujak or Deulia Brahmins are professional temple worshippers. They also work as cooks. The Marhias are priests of lower castes. The Mastans indulge in non-Brahmanical occupations. The titles of this category of Brahmins mark them out as a class quite distinct from the rest of the Brahmins. They are also called Balaram Gotri Brahmins.

The Brahmins of the district are continuing their traditional professions till today. Due to pressure on purse some of them have adopted other professions. All Brahmins observe ten Samskaras (rites) at different stages of life. These rites are believed to purify a person. Generally during Upanayan most of the rites are performed. Recitation of Vedas, worship of Brahma in Trisandhya, performance of Yangya, etc., are part of their routine work. The Sasani Brahmins do not establish marital relationship with the Sarua, Panda, Pujari, Marhia and Mastani Brahmins.

### **Dagra**

It is a small caste peculiar to Baleshwar who are found chiefly in the areas under Bhadrak and Dhamnagar police-station. The term Dagra means 'a messenger'. It is believed that the Dagra were postal runners either during Muslim rule or under the Marathas. Since that period they acquired considerable *jagirs* known as Ara Dagrai. Most of them are cultivators, but in Bhadrak some are hereditary holders of proprietary tenures. It is said that they were brought from Nagpur by the Marathas. Others allege that they are connected with the Dagra of upper India. They bear the same titles as Chasas and it may therefore be surmised that they are a functional off-shoot from that caste.

### Gauda

The Gaudas are found more or less in all the Tahasils of the district. Regarding their sub-castes, ornaments and occupations O' Malley states "there are several sub-castes of which the Mathurapuria ranks highest in Balasore, because its members do not carry the *palki*. The Gopapuria sub-caste is noticeable for the fact that its female members are almost the only women in Orissa who do not wear nose ornaments, a circumstance which they pretend, connects them with Krishna's mythical milkmaids. The young women of both sub-castes prepare butter and *ghi* which the elder ones take round for sale with their milk. Field labour of all kinds is eschewed by the Gauda women. The sub-caste known as Magadha ranks last and is probably a recent accretion from some aboriginal tribes."\* The observation made by O'Malley is not correct nowadays. The spread of education has changed the fashion and occupation of the people. Differences between sub-castes have also shrunk.

The Gaudas worship Lord Shri Krishna. They pay reverence to the cow. Dola Purnima on full moon day in the month of Phalguna (February-March) is their main festival.

### Guria

Gurias prepare sweetmeats. It is their traditional occupation. But most of them have given up their caste profession and have adopted other avocations. Generally food cooked by them are accepted by all. Lord Ganesh is their tutelary deity. The main festival of the caste is Ganesh Chaturthi.

### Kachara

The traditional occupation of the Kachara caste is to sell glass bangles (Kacha). They also deal with brass and bell-metal utensils prepared by the Kansari/Thatari castes. They are generally found in Bhadrak, Chandbali, Paramanandapur, Bidyadharpur, Tihidi, Pirhat, Kupari, Soro, Basta, Dhamnagar and Baleshwar,

The caste enjoys the ministrations of Brahmins on socio-religious functions. They worship the brass scale on the Dasahara day. A Matha named "Kalinga Kachara Matha" at Balagandi Sahi in Puri town has been established by the people of this community since 1901.

### Karan

The Karans are the writer caste of the district, but there are many among them who are zamindars, tenure holders or landlords. They are influential people in the district. They are divided into four sects, viz, the Krishnatreya, Sankhyayana, Bharadwaj and Naga. Marriage

\*L. S. S. O' Malley, Bengal District Gazetteer, Balasore, 1907.



In the caste is regulated according to the customs in vogue among the higher castes.

### Kansari

The Kansaris derived their name from *Kansa* (bell-metal). They are found in Balেশwar, Similia, Khaira, Soro, Remuna, Basta, Raibania, Bhadrak, Dhamnagar, Tihidi, Chandbali, Basudebpur, Nilagiri and Berhampur police-stations of the district. But their concentration is more in Remuna than in other police-stations. Brass and bell-metal industry is the main-stay of the people. Brahmin priests officiate in their socio-religious functions. They worship brass scale and its weights on the Dasahara day.

### Khandayat

The Khandayats are by far the largest caste in the district. Their name is derived from the Oriya word *Khanda*, a sword. The other view is that Orissa was formerly divided into Khandas or groups of villages corresponding to the *Pargana* of Muslim period. Each *Khanda* was governed by a headman called *Khandapati*, which was subsequently corrupted to Khandayat. Whatever may be the etymology of the name, it is admitted that the Khandayats belong to the warrior class and are the descendants of the people who formed the landed militia under the ancient Rajas of Orissa. As members of the militia, the Khandayats had to serve as soldiers in times of war, and in return they were given lands under strictly military tenure. Their characteristic occupation have changed due to change of time. They have now adopted other avocations.

Dasahara has a special significance to the warrior caste. They worship their old weapons of war and exhibit physical feats on this occasion. Their heroic forbears used to start on fresh military expeditions during this season of the year.

### Khitibansa or Matibansa

The people of this community are found mainly in the villages under Bant, Bhadrak, Dhamnagar Tihidi, Chandbali, Soro and Jaleshwar police-stations of the district. The community is divided into three sections mostly on the basis of the occupations they follow. The Khitibansa or Matibansa Abadhans used to teach children in *Chatalis* or village schools. A section of the community take *Mangala*, the goddess of smallpox, from door to door and thereby earn their living. Another section took to weaving. There was no marital relationship between the different sections, but these restrictions are not followed strictly in the present society. They worship Adishakti. Their caste symbol is *Khadi*, a piece of soapstone.

### **Kshatriya**

In caste hierarchy the Kshatriyas stand second to the Brahmins. Their strength is few in the district. They are found chiefly in Nilagiri subdivision. They belong to the warrior caste and observe *upanayan*. The ex-rulers of Nilagiri claim to be Suryavamsi Kshatriyas like the ex-rulers of Mayurbhanj. They use Bhanja as surname to their family title.

### **Kumbhar**

The Kumbhars are potters. The term Kumbhars derived from the Sanskrit word *Kumbhakara-Kumbha*(water jar) and *Kara* (maker). They prepare and sell various types of earthenware, such as pot, toy, plate, *Dhupadani*, *Dipa*, *Chilam*, etc. They earn by selling these materials in the local market. Their service in this respect is indispensable. They observe *Kurala Panchami* and *Odhana sathi* on the 5th and 6th day respectively of the bright fortnight of the month of Pausa (December-January). On this ceremonial occasion they also worship their implements.

### **Mali**

The Mali means gardener. Selling of flowers and garlands is their principal occupation. Due to meagre income from their customary calling, most of them have adopted other professions to earn their livelihood.

### **Natha Yogi**

The Natha Yogis live on begging from door to door with a gourd vessel. Conventionally they sing songs relating to the religious preacher Govinda Chandra, Data Karna and others by playing on a string instrument called Kendara. Their usual surname is Natha.

### **Nolia**

The Nolias are fishermen. They mainly reside near the sea-coast. There are two sub-castes, viz., Jaliya and Khalasi. The former are fishermen and the latter work in sea-going vessels. The Nolias are followers of Ramanuja. They worship Baruna, the Hindu Neptune. Flowers and sweets are offered to Baruna before launching a boat. They are expert swimmers. They usually attend the surf-bathers on the sea-coast.

### **Patara**

The Pataras are dealers in silk and cotton yarn. They string necklaces and sale Pata, Kastha, Pataphuli, Dhadia and Kardhuni. They are divided into four sub-castes, viz., Phulia, Tasaria, Dandia and Jagati. They are Vaishnavas and specially venerate Lord Balabhadra. They worship the deity on the full-moon day in the

month of Shraban (July-August) called 'Gamha Purnima'. On this occasion they also worship their implements such as *Chhuri*, *Ankura*, *Pata*, etc.

### **Teli**

The Telis deal in oil and are known as oil-men. They are also known as Kuberaputras or sons of Kubera, the God of Wealth. Among them three sub-castes are noticed. They are Haladia, Khari and Baldia or Thoria. The first two press oil by indigenous method and trade in it. The Baldia or Thoria Telis trade in turmeric which is carried from place to place with the aid of bullocks. But nowadays many have switched over to other professions and disparity among them have almost gone.

### **Raju**

Among the castes of Orissa, the Raju caste of Baleshwar district goes by a distinctive characteristic of its own. Economically prosperous and socially advanced, this community lives in preponderant number in the northern portion of the district. The Rajus are also seen in great many number in the districts of Midnapur and 24 Pargana of West Bengal which were within the territorial limits of Orissa in earlier days. They also live in the district of Singhbhum as well as in the border regions of the present day Andhra Pradesh which formed a part of medieval Orissa.

The existence of this caste in the frontier regions of Orissa and not in its central areas have led some authorities to believe that these people were not the original inhabitants of Orissa, but that they came from outside, and settled permanently. This migration, of course, might have taken place several centuries ago, and the newcomers became Oriyas in due course of time.

While some scholars ascribe the origin of the Rajus to the "Rajukas" of the description in the Asokan Inscriptions, others trace their origin to the "Chandavat" and "Shuktavat" Kshatriyas of Rajputana who came to join the military services of Orissa's medieval monarchs and served on the frontier forces.

It is said that in earlier days the people of this caste carried a common surname 'Raju'. But later on, they adopted such surnames as Mahapatra, Kar, Chauhan, Chaudhury, Senapati, Sahani, Dandapat, Pradhan, Biswal, Giri, Brahma, Varma, Dutta, Chanda, Bhanja, Pal, Samal, Singha, Nandi, Nayak, Patra, Das, etc.

While in some Raju families the wearing of the 'Sacred Thread' still prevails as social system, in others the worship of swords and arms continue as a custom.

The Rajus have adopted agriculture, trade and business as their main occupational profession. In recent times, they are seen to be settling in other areas of Orissa, outside Baleshwar. They have extensive marital relationship with the Kshatriyas and the Khandayats of Orissa\*.

### Sualgiri

Sualgiris are found only in this district of Orissa. They inhabited in the villages of Sugo, Dhansimulia, Kalyanpur in Jaleshwar C. D. Block; Ramachandrapur, Madhupur, Mahagab, Agarda in Bhograi C. D. Block; and Manikpura, Ujuda, Padhiharipur, Gilajori and Mugal in Basta C. D. Block. In the Final Report on the Revision Settlement of Orissa (1922-1932 A. D.), W. W. Dalziel says "the community was found in Sugo and Dhansimulia villages in the District. They speak a peculiar language and eat the flesh of jackals". They worship 'Badam' as the Supreme Lord and at the same time believe in the Hindu Pantheon. In their social customs they have been immensely influenced by the Hindus. But they perform their religious rites with the help of their own community priests. In the past, they were nomads and hunting was their main occupation. Gradually, they have come to settle in villages permanently and have adopted several other occupations like cultivation, fishing, etc.

सत्यमेव जयते

They have their own peculiar language for communication and they also speak Oriya. Their population is very limited. Only 100 persons live in Sugo and 200 persons in Dhansimulia, the two old settlements of the Sualgiri community in the district according to the assessment of the local Revenue Officers. Education has not spread much among them till now. On enquiry it was ascertained that only one boy of the community is a post-graduate from Utkal University.

### Tambuli

Traditionally the Tambulis are betel-leaf sellers. It is believed that they have come from outside and became permanent inhabitants of the district since the Maratha period.

\*Source—Professor Dr. M. N. Das, ex-Vice-Chancellor of Utkal University

**SCHEDULED CASTES**

In 1981\*, the population of Scheduled Castes was 404,197 (204,747 males and 199,450 females). This constituted about 17.94 per cent of the total population of the district. Of the 54 Scheduled Castes returned in 1971\*\*, the most numerous were Amant or Amat, Bagheti or Baghuti, Bariki, Bauri, Chamar, Dhoba, Dom, Ghosuria, Gokha, Hadi, Kandara, Kela, Kodalo, Kurunga, Mahuria, Mehtar, Namasudra, Pan, Pantanti, Patratanti and Ujia. The above 21 Scheduled Castes comprised 93.62 per cent of the total population of the Scheduled Castes in the district. A detailed list of Scheduled Castes is given in the Appendix I. Of the total Scheduled Castes 95.72 per cent live in rural areas and the rest in urban areas. The growth rate of Scheduled Castes in Baleshwar district during the decade (1971—81) was 19.30 per cent. That was higher than the state average of 16.75 per cent. Among the police-stations, Baleshwar tops the list with 42,257 persons and Berhampur ranks last with 1,963.

The literate and educated persons among the Scheduled Castes numbered 108,464 according to the Census of 1981. This was 26.83 per cent of their total population in the district. The analysis further revealed that 41.29 per cent of males and 11.99 per cent of the females were literate. This indicated that education has spread less among the females.

Bhadrak Tahasil claims the highest percentage of Scheduled Caste literates with 21.90 per cent followed by Soro Tahasil 17.76 per cent, Baleshwar Tahasil 12.18 per cent, Dhamnagar Tahasil 10.48 per cent, Basta Tahasil 10.34 per cent and Jaleshwar Tahasil 10.19 per cent. Nilagiri Tahasil claims the lowest literacy percentage of 3.95 per cent. This is also lower than the state average of 22.40 per cent.

Among the Scheduled Castes 29.70 per cent were main workers, 2.31 per cent recorded under marginal workers, and the rest non-workers. Cultivation and agricultural labour provided livelihood to bulk of the population.

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\*Census of India, Orissa, 1981, Paper-2 of 1982, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, pp. 52-60.

\*\* The 1981 Census has recorded 77 Scheduled Castes in the district.

To raise the socio-economic conditions of the Scheduled Castes, Government have introduced I. R. D. P., E. R. R. P., N. R. E. P., C. A. D. A., M. A. D. A., T. R. Y. S. E. M., R. L. E. G. P., I. T. D. A., LAMP and Indira Awas Yojana. Details are given in chapter IX of this gazetteer.

### **Bariki**

The Barikis are found mostly in the coastal districts of the state. They numbered 2,684 in Balashwar district according to 1971 Census. Among them 25.11 per cent were found literate.

### **Bauri**

The strength of the Bauris in the district was 1,194 in 1971. They reside mostly in the rural areas. They are divided into four sub-castes, viz., Mahabhoi, Tanhara, Ghumura and Buna. The Bauris are mainly agricultural labourers. Nowadays some of them have taken to other avocations. They do not employ Brahmin priests to perform rituals connected with birth, death and marriage. The Bauris have their own caste priest called Baishnab or Gosain. They have also their own barber. He is known as Behera. The posts of Gosain and Behera are hereditary. They do not depend on Dhobas for washing their polluted dress materials.

As regards education of the Bauris, it was found in 1971 Census that 9.21 per cent of their total population were literate. This indicates that education had not spread much among them.

### **Chamar**

In 1971, the strength of Chamar, Mochi, Muchi or Satnami in the district was 13,268 (6,566 males and 6,702 females) of which 23.43 per cent were literate. The Chamaras deal with palm-leaf and household articles made of bamboo. They also prepare *tadi* from date-palm juice. The Mochis are skilled in tanning, curring of hides and skins. They prepare and mend shoes and slippers.

### **Dhoba**

The population of Dhobas according to the 1971 Census was 39,883. Of the total population 38,555 persons live in rural areas. Their traditional occupation is washing of clothes and wood-cutting. On social occasions like birth and death, their services are indispensable. In 1971, 24.64 per cent were found literate among them.

### **Dom**

In the 1971 Census 5,297 persons were recorded as Dom or Dombo of whom 673 or 12.70 per cent were found literate. They weave *Kula*, *Baunsia*, *Tokai*, *Dala*, *Jhudji*, etc. from bamboo splits. They also act as drummers on ceremonial functions.

### **Ghusuria**

The 1971 Census enumerated 2,231 (1237 males and 994 females) Ghusurias in Baleshwar district of which about 12.59 per cent were literate. They are found mainly in rural areas. Their traditional occupation is to rear pigs. They are not served by the Brahmin Priests. They have their own priests called Baishnab.

### **Gokha**

The number of Gokhas in Baleshwar district according to 1971 Census was 54,338. This is 66.09 per cent of the total Gokha population of Orissa. Their customary calling is fishing. They use *Shalua*, made of bamboo sticks and do not generally fish with nets. In 1971, literacy among them was confined to 12,024 persons or 21.12 per cent.

### **Hadi**

Out of 9,633 Hadis or Haris, 9,189 persons live in the rural and 444 in the urban areas of the district. They have their own community priests who perform social and religious functions. They clean latrines, drains and collect skins from the dead cows and buffaloes. They also act as scavengers. Among them literacy was confined to 16.43 per cent in 1971.

### **Kandara**

The name Kandara is said to be derived from their skill in archery (Kanda means arrow) and in former times they and the Pans formed the rank and file of the local militia. They numbered 53,650 in the 1971 Census. Cultivation and agricultural labour provide livelihood to a bulk of the Kandara population. Most of the people in their society also worked as village Chaukidars. Among the Kandaras literacy was confined to 23.21 per cent in 1971.

### **Kela**

The Kelas are mostly snake-charmers. Some have taken to agriculture. After harvesting is over they go to different parts of the state with their snakes kept in *pedi* and earn a living by snake charming and begging. They also invariably carry with them a trained mouse called "Govindi Musa" in a small box to entertain the people. The 1971 Census had recorded 2,583 Kelas in Baleshwar district. Of the total population, 14.78 per cent were found literate.

### **Kodalo or Khodalo**

Out of 8,377 Kodalos or Khodalos in Orissa, 8,355 were enumerated in the district of Baleshwar. The rest were found in Koraput district. They usually live in rural areas.

As regards education, it was found in the Census of 1971 that 27.49 per cent of the Kodalos or Khodalos were literate.

### **Mahuria**

More than 50 per cent of the Mahurias of Orissa live in Baleshwar district. Their name is derived from the wind instrument called Mahuri which they play on ceremonial occasions. In 1971 Census 18.93 per cent of them were found literate.

### **Namasudra**

Out of 49,796 Namasudras in Orissa, 5,879 were enumerated in this district according to 1971 Census. This is the second highest in the state. Koraput district secured the highest position with 42,120 Namasudras and Phulabani (previously Boudh-Khondmals) district with only 4 persons occupied the lowest position. In Baleshwar district they are found mostly in villages under Bhograi, Jaleshwar, Basta and Baliapal police-stations. Fishing is their traditional occupation. At present they have taken to other trades for their living. They believe in Hinduism and perform all the religious rites by their own community priests. Incidence of literacy among them was confined to 28.25 per cent in 1971.

### **Pan**

Out of 6,72,627 Pans or Panos in Orissa, 92,832 persons live in Baleshwar district according to 1971 Census. It is the most numerous Scheduled Caste but they are backward socially, educationally and economically. After independence some changes are noticed among them. More and more children of this community are getting education. As a result, 17.91 per cent were found literate among them in 1971. Their customary calling is said to be weaving, but they mostly work as day-labourers, drummers and cane-weavers. Many of them have also taken to cultivation. The village Chaukidars and postal runners were generally recruited from their ranks. Brahmins, Dhobas and Bhandaris do not serve them. They have their own caste Purohit who officiates in social functions.

### **Pantanti**

The Census of 1971 returned 2,882 Pantantis in Baleshwar district. They live in rural areas and earn their livelihood by weaving clothes. Some of them have changed their customary calling and have adopted other avocations. They have not advanced much in education. In 1971, 19.95 per cent were found literate in their society.

### **Patratanti**

According to the Census of 1971, the Patial, Patikar, Patratanti or Patua numbered 2,519 in the district. Though they earn their livelihood by weaving clothes, some of them depend on



other professions to supplement their income. In their society 23.08 per cent were found literate in 1971. Like other Hindus they worship gods and goddesses and observe festivals.

### Ujia

In 1971 Census, 12,143 persons were returned as Ujias in Baleshwar district. Of the total number only one male member is found in urban area. Catching and selling fish are their mainstay. Literacy was confined to 1,330 or 10.95 per cent in their society. Like Gokhas and Keutas they celebrate *chaitra parba* as their caste festival.

### SCHEDULED TRIBES

The population of the Scheduled Tribes in the district was 1,54,153 in 1981. This constituted 6.84 per cent of the total population of the district. Of the 40 Scheduled\* Tribes found in Baleshwar district, numerically important tribes were Santal, Bhumij, Kolha, Bathudi, Munda, Shabar or Lodha, Bhuinya, Sounti, Oraon, Kharia, Saora, Mundari and Dharua. These 13 tribes together constituted 77.01 per cent of the total tribal population of the district in 1971. A detailed list of the Scheduled Tribes is given in Appendix II.

The growth rate of Scheduled Tribes population in the district during the decade 1961-71 was 34.57 per cent. But the decade 1971-81 recorded a nominal growth rate of 16.19 per cent. Compared to the growth rate of 16.62 per cent for the Scheduled Tribes population of the state during the decade 1971-81, the growth rate of the Scheduled Tribes in the district appeared to be not too high.

Concentration of the Scheduled Tribes was the highest in Nilagiri Tahasil (50,420) and the lowest in Basudebpur Tahasil (415). The police-stations, such as, Baleshwar (20,328), Raibania (15,314), Basta (12,212), Nilagiri (28,937), and Berhampur (21,483) claimed comparatively more tribal population than the other police-stations of the district.

They are also found in Jaleshwar town (9.53 per cent), Baleshwar town (7.87 per cent), Bhadrak town (3.83 per cent), Chandbali town (3.47 per cent) and Soro town (3.06 per cent) and least in Basudebpur town (0.25 per cent). High concentration of Scheduled Tribes in the first three towns may be due to employment facilities.

According to 1981 Census, out of the total Scheduled Tribes population 43.88 per cent were main workers, 5.13 per cent marginal workers and 50.99 per cent non-workers. Among the main workers majority of the persons were engaged in agricultural occupations.

\*The 1981 Census has recorded 53 Scheduled Tribes in the district.

In 1981, the literate and educated persons among the Scheduled Tribes numbered 17,275, i.e., 11.20 per cent of their total population in the district. The analysis revealed that 19.34 per cent of the males and 2.90 per cent of the females were literate. This indicated that education has spread very little among the females.

The census report of 1981 enumerated 146,771 Hindus and 839 Christians among the Scheduled Tribes. This indicates that the tribals of Baleshwar are almost all followers of Hinduism. Other religions have very little impact on the Scheduled Tribes of the district. They worship the Hindu gods and goddesses excepting those who have lived comparatively isolated for a long time. They usually believe in ancestral spirits and a number of malevolent spirits.

The spread of education, communication facilities and implementation of various development schemes have helped the Scheduled Tribes to change their traditional manners and customs.

To protect and control atrocities on the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, Government have taken steps and filed cases under Public Civil Rights Act. Statistics in this respect is given in Appendix III of this chapter.

### **Bhumij**

The 1971 census enumerated 27,793 (13,992 males and 13,801 females) Bhumij in Baleshwar district of which about 7.89 per cent were literate. They are found mainly in the rural areas. They live in Kutcha houses with mud walls and thatched roofs.

They are divided into five categories, viz., Bara Bhumia Bhumij, Teli Bhumij, Tamadia Bhumij, Desua Bhumij, and Haladipokharia Bhumij. In Nilagiri subdivision most of the Bhumij belong to Haladipokharia category. The Bhumij usually marry late in life. This is due to financial reasons. Bride price and the over-all expenditure in a marriage are too heavy for a Bhumij to bear. It demands years of savings and patient preparation. They follow four forms of marriages, viz., (i) the usual type of arranged marriage through negotiation, (ii) Daw dopa or love marriage, (iii) Sindurigesa or marriage by compulsion and (iv) Apartipi or marriage by capture. Of those, arranged marry is generally followed. Divorce is permissible in Bhumij society but the divorced women cannot remarry until the approval of the village elders is obtained by the parents of both parties. Polygamy is practised among the Bhumij. All things will go well if the marrying partners belong to the Bhumij community. The penal provision is heavy if either of the parties belongs to a different

community. Usually they observe and follow the Hindu social customs in case of births and deaths. The Bhumij generally bury the dead and in rare cases the dead body is burnt.

Sing Bonga is the Supreme being of the Bhumij. They believe in superstitions. A Bhumij will not proceed in his journey concerning a marriage negotiation if he comes across a man easing himself or if he finds a branch falling from a tree or a dog barking. Sight of oil is considered inauspicious. These beliefs are slowly fading under long and constant contact with the caste-population.

Makar Parba (Makara Sankranti) is the most important festival of the Bhumij and with this their new year starts. This festival is observed in the month of Pousa (December-January). They observe Harpuna festival in April for sowing seeds. It synchronises with the Akshayatriya day when Hindus also sow seeds. Another very important festival of the Bhumij is Saharai when members of the tribe enjoy considerable freedom in revelry and merry-making. The festival is usually observed for four days in the month of November.

The 1971 Census has recorded 8,895 workers and 2,277 non-workers among the Bhumijis. The distribution of workers are given below\* :

Workers (1)	Male (2)	Female (3)	Total (4)
(i) Cultivator ..	2,228	49	2,277
(ii) Agricultural labourer	3,084	1,791	4,875
(iii) Livestock, forestry, fishing and plantations, orchards and allied activities	130	61	191
(iv) Mining and quarrying	244	291	535
(v) Manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs—			
(a) Household Industry	62	31	93
(b) Other than Household Industry	203	148	351
(vi) Construction ..	2	—	2
(vii) Trade and commerce	18	9	27
(viii) Transport, storage and communications	71	28	99
(ix) other services ..	336	109	445

\*Census of India, Orissa, 1971, part-V-A, Special Tables on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, p. 396 and p. 450.

It is seen from the above figures that agriculture and agricultural labour are the principal occupations of the Bhumij.

### Santal

The Santal is one of the principal tribes of the state of Orissa. They are found in all the thirteen districts of the state. But their concentration is heavy in the districts of Mayurbhanj, Baleshwar and Kendujhar. In the Baleshwar district they are noticed mainly in the areas under Jaleshwar and Nilagiri Tahasils. According to the 1971 Census\* they numbered 46,921 (22,855 males and 24,066 females). Of the total number 43,975 persons live in rural areas and the rest in urban areas.

The Santal village is very neat and clean. Generally a road runs between two rows of houses. The houses are strongly built. Its mud walls and floors are so nicely plastered with cowdung that it presents a smooth and polished surface. The Santal women are skilled in painting. They paint the walls and floors with floral designs and geometric patterns using white, black, red and yellow colours. They prepare black colour from burnt straw and collect other colours from local soils. To make these colours shining and lasting they add the glue from a local tree.

As regards household articles a Santal's possession is very few. Earthenware vessels are generally used in cooking and for storing water. Use of brass and aluminium pots are seen among the well to do Santals.

Men wear napkins and Dhotis while women wear mill-made saris. Use of blouse and inner petticoat have become very popular among the young girls. Use of shirt, short and banian is gaining popularity among the young boys. The Santals use very few ornaments. "Hansli" a kind of necklace is a favourite ornament for the adult women though they invariably wear necklaces of beads. The Santals in the past were using bangles made of brass but now using *chudi* made of silver or glass. Among them no tattoo mark is found in any part of the body.

The Santals eat boiled rice, vegetables, meat, fish, fried rice and *chuda*. *Handia* (rice beer) and country liquor are the favourite alcoholic drinks of the tribe.

The principal occupation of the Santals is agriculture. They grow paddy, maize, Bajara, Kulthi and other cereals. When the production is less, they take other professions like collection of

\*Census of India, Orissa, 1971, Part-II-C (I), p. 237.

leaves, wood and fruits from the forest and sale in the nearby villages and weekly markets. In case of scarcity and non-availability of forest produces Santals go out to work as daily labourers in the field and also work under the contractors. Rope-making and leaf plate making are taken as part time job. At times they go out for hunting and fishing. They use bows and arrows for hunting. They have a large assortment of arrows. These are designed for shooting birds, animals and fish. The Santals have also a number of other hunting implements, fishing nets, etc., All these go to show that they have studied the nature and habits of wild animals, birds and so forth and have fashioned their implements accordingly.

The Santal women are treated with respect in the community. The mother, mother-in-law and grand mother-in-law are held in respect. The married women are never subjected to any form of misbehaviour. The women folk of the community have the freedom of mixing freely with the men in social functions and day to day life. There is no Purdah. The Panchayat protects them against any form of oppression. Ploughing the paddy field is the duty of the male section. Sustained labour and intensive work like digging soil, cutting wood, bringing goods on shoulder, etc., are usually done by male members. The woman folk generally fetch water, collect fuel and leaves and cook. They look to all household affairs like preparing rice beer and country liquor. The Santal women take care of the children and the domestic animals. Marketing is usually done by the female folk.

They speak a dialect called Santali. This is their mother-tongue. But most of them are able to read and write in Oriya. They also use Bengali and Devnagari scripts. In lieu of different scripts they feel that one common script is necessary for the greater interest of their solidarity. So Raghunath Murmu, an eminent Santal, prepared a common script called "Ol chiki". It has been accepted by all the Santals. The 1971 census\* has recorded 27,951 speakers in Santali language in Baleshwar district.

As regards their education, the 1971\*\* census has registered 44,177 illiterates and 2,744 literates among them. The incidence of literacy is thus limited to 5.85 per cent. In their society only 45 persons are found to have possessed matriculation and above qualification.

\* A Portrait of Population, Orissa, B. Tripathy, Census of India, 1971, p. 248.

\*\* Census of India, Orissa, 1971, Part-V-A Special Tables on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, p-600 and 634.

The Santals have been divided into 12 main sections according to political, spiritual and social functions of the community. The sections are as follows:

1. Kisku      .. This section of the Santals once upon a time were kings in the area they dwelt.
2. Hansdah    ... This section of people were assisting Kisku in running the state. They are known as "Pururdhul" the learned men.
3. Hembram    .. Most learned persons in the society and are known as "Karji", the judge.
4. Soren      .. The warriors
5. Tudu       .. The Musicians
6. Marandi    .. The wealthiest people
7. Murmu      .. The sacred people who perform religious functions.
8. Besera     .. The dancers
9. Baske      } Functions of these sections are not commonly known to the present Santal society. The sections noted at serial Nos. 10, 11 and 12 are not found in Baleshwar district.
10. Chone     }
11. Dandar    }
12. Gandar    }

Santals generally use "Majhi" as their surname. The word "Majhi" is derived from "Manjhi" the village headman. As education spreads, the enlightened Santals are changing their surname from Majhi to the respective section name such as Kisku, Hansdah, Soren, Tudu, Marandi, Murmu and Hembram.

In their society an individual can marry into any other section except his own and sex relation between members of the same section are regarded as incestuous.

The Santals have made the marriage procedure simple and added some more qualities to their customs according to the local conditions in Baleshwar district.

Among the Santals, marriage is usually arranged by the parents. Marriage initiative is always taken by the boy's parents. Selected persons from the bridegroom's side first go to the house of the bride. They see the bride and discuss matters relating to marriage. If they are satisfied, they invite the bride's side to their house. When

both the parties agree, the bride price is finalised, and the marriage date is fixed. After the payment of bride price, the bride is taken to the bridegroom's house on the appointed day by the help of bullock cart, motor vehicles or by any other means according to the financial condition of the parents. Then the *Sindura Dan* ceremony takes place. The bridegroom in his right hand applies *Sindur* or vermilion on the forehead of the bride. After this, they became husband and wife.

Nowadays, in Baleshwar district, the bridegrooms have started demanding from the parents of the bride radio, wrist watch, cycle, etc., as dowry. Their demands are also fulfilled in most cases. The relatives and villagers co-operate in the marriage. They are entertained with Handia (rice-beer). This is known as 'Biheet' by the Santals.

When a baby is born, the woman is kept in isolation. She is attended by an elderly and experienced Santal woman. She is called Dhai. In case of a difficult delivery, they ask the midwife of the nearest hospital to attend. After delivery the umbilical cord is severed by the Dhai with the help of a sharp edged arrow. At the same time an elderly pair (husband and wife) is selected to act as barber to do other jobs connected with the child birth, i.e., to crush turmeric, prepare leaf cups and plates, and to cut hair of the child. They are known as "Hoiyo Budi and Hoiyo Hadam". After cleaning the child and the mother, the Dhai, the oldwomen and men go to the pond with turmeric and oil to take bath and to be freed from "Chhut" or pollution. After that all return home. The Dhai sprays water mixed with rice flour in the house and on the body of the persons present. Then they are declared as free from birth pollution. All present take some quantity of Nima-rice and disperse. When umbilical cord is dried and fallen, it is taken and buried under the threshold in a ceremonial way. Thus, the birthday ceremony ends.

Both cremation and burial are practised by the Santals. After death, the body is taken on a *charpoi*, to the cremation ground. On the way people pay their last respect by offering water and coins. In the cremation ground generally the elder son gives soil first in the grave, if the body is buried. If it is burnt, he sets fire to the pyre. After cremation, "Asthi" is collected from the ashes and kept in a small pot covered and sealed with a plaster made of powdered rice and turmeric. The said pot is kept in a hole properly covered with earth preferably under a nearby tree. Then the funeral party take bath and return home. The next function is "Umul Aadar" or Chaya invitation of the deceased. Boiled rice and chicken curry are prepared and served to the elderly persons who formally accept

the food. Thereafter, others take the prepared food. A portion of food is also kept in a corner of the house in the name of the deceased for three days till "Telaha" function is held. At this stage the family is made *Sudha* or free from pollution temporarily. The death rite of the deceased ends after Bhandan at home and *Asthi Bisarjan* in a holy place of a river.

The Santal social activities are controlled by the caste Panchayat comprised of Majhi (head of the caste Panchayat), Jaga Majhi (assistant to Majhi), Paranik (liasion of unmarried boys and girls), Godet (the Dakua or call man) and elders of the village. They settle all disputes except murder cases. The decision of the Majhi is honoured. The defaulters are fined according to the gravity of the case starting from one pitch of Handia to five with goat and rice for feast of the persons engaged in deciding the case. The post of representatives are inherited from generation to generation till the extinction of that family. The posts are honorary. They are entertained on the occasion of marriage, birth and death.

The Santals have no separate person except "Naik" who usually act as "Majhi" of the village. He performs socio-religious functions such as Baha, Maa Bonga, Got Bonga, Beja Tunj Bonga and other *pujas*.

The Santals believe in idol worship. Morrang Buru and Jahar Aaiya are the main God and Goddess of the Santals. They have also separate deities for each family. The name of the domestic deity is kept confidential and told to the next head of the family for worship. In case of illness and obstacle the headman of the family pray the domestic deity for speedy recovery and relief from evil spirits. After fulfilment of their desire they offer cock, hen, goat, pig and dove to the deities. Handia, the intoxicating liquid prepared from rice is generally offered to "Hapramka", the ancestor.

The Santals of Balashwar district observe Sakrat (Makar Sankranti), Baha, Eroj, Raja, Asadia, Chaita, Gamha Dasain, Saharai, Mag, Mag Mone and Karam festivals. They also attend Dola, Durgapuja, Ratha Jatra and other festivals organized by other castes.

The Santals have different dances and musics for different occasions, i.e., Chhatiar (birth), Bapla (marriage), Dasain (Durgapuja), Saharai (Kalipuja), Jatra (in common fairs), Mamone and Baha (Salai Puja). They stage Lagne, Luhuri, Jhikha and Danta dance for amusement in the village. They use Madal, Dhumsa, Charchuri, Ghanta, Dak, Banan, Trian, Murali, etc., as musical instruments during dance and music. Recently they have added harmonium to their musical instruments.



They perform group dances. Both male and female dance together in circle holding hands of one another except in Danta, Baha and Magmone. They sing songs with varieties of tunes and rhythms.

Magic and witchcraft are still prevalent among the Santals. The Santal Ojha (Tantrakar) occupies a very high position in the society as he is expected to exercise control over evil spirits and cure diseases by spiritual methods. Generally women practise witchcraft. In most cases they become victims of murder when suspected of practising witchcraft.

In Baleshwar, social and cultural differences among the converted and non-converted Christians are noticed. The converted Santal Christians ceased to worship Marang Buru, Jahar Asiya and domestic deities. They also refrain from taking Handia and following other social customs. They are more health conscious and disciplined than the non-converted Santals.

## SOCIAL LIFE

### (i) Customs and Practices

Due to mass consciousness through education, information and global contact considerable changes have taken place in observing many of the orthodox customs and practices. However, the traditional Hindu and Muslim customs relating to birth, marriage and death are given below.

### Birth

The Hindu pregnant woman observed various taboos for safe delivery and protection from attack of evil spirits. She has to observe also a number of restrictions during pregnancy. During this period she is kept cheerful and is generally given types of foods he wants.

When labour pain starts, she is usually taken to a lying-in room called *anturdisala*. Torn shoes broomstick or branches of *Siju* trees are suspended in front of the lying-in room to ward off evil spirits. A midwife is called to attend her. After delivery the umbilical cord of the child is cut with the help of a sea-shell, blade or knife and the placenta is disposed of in a ditch made outside the house. On the night of the sixth day after birth, the *Sasthi puja* is held. A ceremony called *uthiary* is observed on the seventh day. On this day the newborn baby and the mother take first purificatory bath. She takes second purificatory bath on the 12th day and is allowed to change her room. The child is named on the 21st day. It is known as *ekoisa*. On this occasion Satyanarayan Puja is held amidst much rejoicing and feast among relatives and neighbours.

The next important rituals among the Hindus are *Mundan* (shaving of the head), ear-boring and *Bidyaramha* (initiation of learning). Besides the above ceremonies, the Brahmin and the Kshatriya children in their early adolescence observe *Upanayan* (the sacred thread ceremony).

Among the Muslims, just after the birth of a child, the eldest male member of the family present at home generally recites the *Azan* (sacred verses of God) near the ears of the new-born child. The mother observes pollution for a period of forty days. During this period she abstains from regular prayer. On the sixth or seventh, day the child's head is shaved. Next ritual is *aqiqah*. It is generally held after forty days. In this ceremony one he-goat is sacrificed in case of a female child and two he-goats in case of a male child. The meat is distributed among the relatives and the poor for the well-being of the child. The *Bismillaha* ceremony of the child is observed between the age of four and five. The priest recites verses from the Koran and the child repeats it. This marks the beginning of the educational career of the child. They circumcise (*Khatan*) their male children at the age of 7 or 8.

## Marriage

Among the Hindus *Brahma*, *Daiva*, *Arjya*, *Prajapatya*, *Asura*, *Gandharva*, *Rakshas* and *Paishacha* types of marriages are known to have been prevalent since ancient times. Of those, only *Prajapatya* type of marriage is now in vogue. Generally marriage is settled after the examination of the horoscope of both the bridegroom and the bride by the astrologer. He predicts whether the stars of the couple are in harmony or not. If the horoscopes of the couple are found compatible then the marriage is arranged. On an auspicious day according to the Oriya almanac.

It is generally held at the bride's house. On the day of marriage the mother and other women of the family bless the groom. The Brahmin priest chants hymns blessing and sprinkles sundried rice and flowers on him. The marriage party starts in a procession with great eclat. The drummers and trumpeters lead the procession followed by the bridegroom seated in a palanquin. The well-to-do families arrange carts and cars for the party members, if the distance is long.

Marriage takes place on an auspicious *lagna* (time) in the bride's residence. Arrangements of light, music and fire works depend according to the availability of funds. Generally people try to make the procession as lively as possible. On reaching the bride's house the women folk from the bride's side welcome the groom amidst blowing of conches and *hul huli* and *bandapana*.

Then the bride and bridegroom in their bridal dress are taken to the *vedi* (marriage pulpit). The rites of the marriage ceremony are held one after another by the Brahmin priest. The principal rites of marriage ends after *kanyadan* and *panigrahana*. After that bride and bridegroom are made to play with seven cowries with the help of close female relations. On the *vedi* presents are made both in cash or kind to the bride and the bridegroom.

In the meantime, a feast is arranged where all the members of the groom's party and the invitees are entertained.

On the next day the groom's party return home with the bride. The bride begins to wail with rhymes before departure, addressing her mother, grandmother, aunt, uncle, father, brother and sisters in a pathetic tone reminiscing the fondness, love and affection with which she was brought up all along in the midst of her relations and family members under the benign protection of her parents and grand parents. This is customary or else the women folk would murmur that the girl was anxious to leave her father's house for her father-in-law's. This custom is dying out, but is still prevalent in some remote rural areas.

When the groom's party reaches the house of the groom, seven women welcome the couple by performing *bandapana*. The bride and the groom are not usually allowed to meet in seclusion until the *chauthi* (fourth day) ceremony is over. The *astamangala* (eighth day) celebration is the concluding ceremony of the wedding.

In Muslim society generally *meher* is decided in the presence of both the marriage parties. Then the bride's guardian with two other witnesses takes the consent of the bride and they declare her opinion. After that the *Khutba-nikah* is cited by the *kazi* and the marriage is performed. The marriage is recorded in a register maintained by the *kazi* and signed by the bride, bridegroom and witnesses.

### Mortuary Customs

When death takes place in a Hindu family the relatives and castemen of the area rush to the house in mourning and try to console the bereaved members. They make arrangement for the removal of the death body to the cremation ground. A bier is prepared with six poles of bamboo, cut to size, in the shape of a ladder. The dead-body is conveyed to the bier by the surviving members of the family with three loud shouts of *haribol* amidst bewailings of the women-folk. The funeral procession is generally led by the eldest son. The pall-bearers follow him with shouts of *haribol* and *harinam satyahai* at intervals and others go with crowbar, spade, axes, earthen pitchers, dried feggots of *tulasi* plants, etc. Friends and sympathisers of other

castes also accompany the procession. On the way to cremation ground *Khai* and *Kaudi* are thrown by the *karta* or chief mourner. Now a days in lieu of *kaudi*, coins are used. The dead body is usually cremated on the bank of a river. The dead bodies of the new born, the children up to five or six years of age, lepers and persons who dies of snake-bite and Sannyasis or ascetics are usually buried. *Mukhagni* or lighting of the funeral pyre is performed by the eldest son of the deceased, and in his absence by the other son or the nearest male member of his *kutumba*. Certain restrictions are maintained by the members of the *kutumba* with regard to food. Oil, ghee, non-vegetarian diet are not taken during the pollution period of murning which lasts for 11 days. The *Sudhikriya* is held on the 10th day. The shaving and nail paring of the members of the *kutumba* are done on this day. The *karta* performs *tarpan* and offers *pinda* to the deceased and the family priest utters hymns for the salvation of the deceased soul. On the 11th day non-vegetarian food mainly fish which were banned during the period of mourning are allowed to all concerned.

The Muslims recite verses from the Koran at the time of death. After death, the villagers and the near and dear ones are informed of the death. The body is washed with water and covered with a white cloth (Kaffan) and camphor is sprinkled. It is then placed in a bier (Tabut). The relatives and villagers of the deceased carry the dead body to the graveyard where the last prayer (Namaj-e-Janaja) is offered. Then they place the corpse into grave dug for the purpose with its head to the north and face to the west, i.e., towards "Kaba". The grave is then closed with earth and the Imam recites verses from the Koran and persons accompanying the dead body also pray for the departed soul. On the 4th, 10th and 20th day the members of the deceased family arrange group Koran reading, feeding the poor and prayer for the departed soul. The death pollution ends on the 40th day. On that day Koran is recited in groups and charitable food and alms are given to the poor for the salvation of the departed soul.

### **Inter caste relations**

The traditional division of Hindus into castes, though basically still intact, has lost much of its social rigidity to modern outlook in human relationship and social status. The drive of Mahatma Gandhi against the social disabilities of the untouchables has broken the barriers between the high castes and the untouchables. As untouchability is now punishable under law, people of various castes do not hesitate to worship, sit and dine in a common place. The change of occupations, spread of education and appointment of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in

private and public sectors have shrunken the traditional differences between various castes. Intercaste marriages, though rare in the district, are now tolerated. Under these circumstances the traditional structure of the Hindu society based on caste is undergoing a sea change.

The tribals have retained their individual identity based on clans and dialects, but they have cordial relationship and co-operation among themselves. Sometimes inter-tribe marriages though not socially recognised are tolerated and made regular after observance of due ceremonies.

### **New religious leaders and movements**

Followers of Shri Ramakrishna, Shri Sarada (for Vivekananda), Shri Aurobindo and Shri Maa, Sathyasai Baba, Swami Shivananda, Thakur Anukul Chandra, Thakur Nigamananda, Aviram Paramahansa and Mahima Gosain, the founder of the Mahima cult are found at different places in this district. They have formed their own organizations and are carrying on religious functions with the help of their followers.

### **(ii) Property and Inheritance**

As regards inheritance and succession to property all the Hindus of the district except the Bengalis are governed by the Mitakshara School of Hindu law. The Bengalis are governed by the Dayabhag School of Hindu law. The Muslims are governed by the Mohammadan Law of Succession. The Tribals, however, are governed by their own customs and usages.

The joint family system is prevailing in the district. Of late the system is rapidly breaking up due to the new living conditions, pressure on purse and migration to urban areas in search of livelihood. In spite of this number of joint families still exist in the district and they continue to be so by circumstances. The Hindu Succession Act, 1956 has allowed equal share in properties to daughters and the widow along with sons. But the daughters are not generally enforcing the right as they do not like to alienate the sympathy of their brothers in their parental home. As the parents are forced to give dowry (in spite of the legal prohibition) at the time of their daughters' marriage (otherwise they will not be able to get them married), they also do not like that their daughters should get shares from their property after their death.

Transfer of property through wills is sometimes considered as a sign of weakening of joint family ties. But it does not seem to be so in all cases. However, the number of wills registered in 16 Sub-Registrar offices of the district from 1969 to 1985 is 914. Details are given in the Appendix IV of this chapter.

### **(iii) Marriage and Morals**

The Hindu Marriage Act of 1955 forbids polygamy. Monogamy prevails among most of the castes and tribes.

The Hindu marriage is regulated according to *gotra*. Generally the *gotra* of one's father is taken into account when a marriage is contemplated. But this kind of restriction is no longer followed strictly in recent times. Horoscope examination of the bride and the bridegroom, and the ceremony of *nirbandha* which were rigidly observed in the past are not followed rigidly under the changed circumstances. The practice of child marriage which was common in the former days has almost disappeared and the age of marriage has substantially increased in case of both the male and the female. Any marriage outside one's caste is considered as a gross violation of social norms. But these inter-caste marriage restrictions are gradually decreasing and inter-caste marriages are increasing among the educated persons. To get rid of heavy expenses and botherations people are gradually adopting registered marriage in the court. Deviations from the usual procedure is also seen in cases where a boy and a girl fall in love and decide to marry. If the concerned parents give consent, it is solemnised in the usual manner. Otherwise the couple consummate the marriage according to their own choice.

From time immemorial dowry system is in vogue in our society. In recent years to get a well educated and well-placed bridegroom the parents are offering more dowry either in cash or in kind. This practice causes great hardship to most economically backward parents. There are also instances of enlightened persons who refuse to accept dowry. To eradicate this social evil, the Dowry Prevention Act was passed by the Indian Parliament in 1961. Accordingly the Government of Orissa have also introduced the Dowry Prevention Act.

In order to prevent deaths arising out of the nasty dowry system and also the consequential suicides of women for the dowry problem including the torture and the harassment meted out to them, sections 498-A and 306 of the Indian Penal Code was introduced. To add to this, section 3 and 4 of the Dowry Prevention Act, 1961 read with the amendment of 1984 (made effective from 2nd October 1985) are also applicable at present.

Statistics relating to dowry issue in Balashwar district is given below\* :

Year	Dowry death		Anti-dowry	Chrged-sheeted	Final report true	Pending Investigation	Total
	Suicide	Home-cide					
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1986	5	..	7	9	3	..	12
1987	6	..	6	1	..	11	12

### Civil Marriage

The Government of India's Special Marriage Act was first passed in the year 1872. It was substituted by the Special Marriage Act, 1954 with certain modifications. This new Act was enforced on the first day of January, 1955 and the Government of Orissa framed rules to implement the Act in the same year. Under these rules civil marriages are registered by the Sub-Registrar. Of the 1766 civil marriage notices filed from 1969 to 1985 in Balashwar district, only 629 civil marriages had been registered. Details are given in the Appendix V of this chapter.

### Widow Remarriage

Widow remarriage is no longer disapproved in the society. It is mostly now confined to the educated mass. Among the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheduled Castes widow remarriage is permissible by tradition.

### Divorce

Marriage being considered a sacrament, some castes avoid divorce. But among certain castes divorce is easy. It can be brought about at the will of either party. According to the Hindu Marriage Act of 1955, divorce is allowed on some specific grounds to be determined by the courts. In Balashwar district, number of divorce cases filed in the court was 64 during 1971 to 1980 and 77 during 1981 to 1985\*\*.

### The place of women in society and their economic dependence

Women occupied high position in the Hindu society since the ancient times. In this connection Manu had said that Gods reside in those households where women are respected. The

\*Deputy Inspector General of Police, HA & DD, Orissa, Cuttack,

\*\*District Judge, Balashwar.

husband who disregard his wife is punished by the God. Similarly, the wife was supposed to worship her husband as God and remain faithful to him. Women were able rulers and brave fighters of which the history of Orissa bears ample testimony. A galaxy of women ruled Orissa in the 8th to 10th centuries. The status of women, however, declined after the Muslim invasions of India when seclusion or *pardha* came into vogue as measure of safety and protection. The practice continued thereafter among different castes as a mark of social prestige. It was observed strictly in villages than in towns and more rigidly followed among the Muslims than among the Hindus. But things have changed with the spread of education and the former seclusion of women has almost disappeared.

After independence the desire for improvement in the level of living and soaring prices have created problems unknown in the past. Generally in most cases men are economically active, though in rural areas among the cultivating classes women have been giving a helping hand to their male partners in rearing cattle, looking after crops and assisting them in agricultural operations. It was only in towns that women are completely dependent and generally do not take part in any economic activity. Economic stress and worries of modern life have made it difficult for the people in urban areas to achieve certain standard of living. Nowadays educated women are coming out in increasing numbers to shoulder the responsibility of running the household by engaging themselves in economic pursuits.

### **Prostitution, drinking and gambling**

In the darkness of the under world prostitution thrives mostly in urban centres like Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Manjuri Road. There is no organised brothel nor was there in the past. Women police, a recent addition to the force have booked a few cases under the suppression of Immoral Traffic in women & Girls Act (SITA). But that is not adequate, there is no reformatory homes for the rehabilitation and restoration of ill-fated women in this district. There is one Kanyashram at Soro which is meant for small girls to be educated. There is another Kanyashram at Baleshwar which is meant for destitutes.

Drinking has become a social evil. Educated youngsters are the foremost prey of this evil. Also people of poor class like daily labourers and rickshaw-pullers fell to this vice. The tribals accept it as their social custom.

Gambling is going on at a lesser scale and it has not been completely stopped. There are regular drives from the police side to prevent both illicit sale of liquor and gambling.



Number of cases registered under Suppression of Immoral Traffic in women and Girls Act and Gambling Act for the year 1980—85 are given below:\*

Year	S. I. T. Act	Gambling Act
1980	2	11
1981	1	21
1982	..	5
1983	...	14
1984	..	11
1985	..	13

#### HOME LIFE

##### Type of Dwellings

In 1971\*\* there were 407,320 houses in Baleshwar district, of which 381,780 were in the rural areas and 25,540 in the urban areas. The distribution of houses and the uses to which they were put in the district are given below.

Type of Houses	Number
1. Houses vacant at the time of house-listing ..	12,465
2. Occupied houses used as—	
(i) Residence ..	279,425
(ii) Shop-cum-residence ..	2,570
(iii) Workshop-cum-residence including house-hold industry	3,260
(iv) Hotels, Sarais, Dharmasalas, Tourist homes and Inspection houses	695
(v) Shops excluding eating houses ..	7,850
(vi) Business houses and offices ..	1,860
(vii) Factories, Workshops and Worksheds ..	4,495
(viii) Restaurants, Sweetmeat shops and eating places	1,465
(ix) Places of entertainment and community gathering (Panchayat Ghar) excluding places of worship	1,435
(x) Places of worship (e. g. Temple, Church, Mosque, Gurudwara, etc.)	8,235
(xi) Others ..	83,565
Total houses ..	407,320

\*Superintendent of Police, Baleshwar.

\*\* Census of India, Orissa, Housing Report and Tables, 1971, p. 83.

It is seen from the foregoing statement that the majority of the houses are used as residence. Places of worship (e.g., temple, church, mosque, Gurudwara, etc.) houses constitute the second highest group and the lowest category includes hotels, Sarais, Dharmashalas, tourist homes and inspection bungalows and rest sheds.

According to the 1971 Census\*, Balashwar district had 4.4 per cent houses with walls made of grass, leaves, reeds or bamboo in rural areas and 5.7 per cent in urban areas. But the percentage of such materials for walls were 4.1 per cent in rural and 2.6 per cent in urban areas in 1961. This indicates a slight increase during the decade 1961—71. The reason why such poor quality materials like grass, leaves, reeds or bamboo find favour for construction of walls in the urban areas may be found in the large number of cheap temporary hutments fast coming up to accommodate the economically backward people who migrate to urban areas to earn their livelihood. Due to the increasing influx of such persons to the urban areas of Balashwar, Bhadrak, Jaleswar, Chandbali and Soro slums consisting of clusters of cheap improvised hutments have come up.

In the rural areas mud is the most common material for construction of walls. Balashwar district has recorded 91.6 per cent houses with mud walls in rural areas. This is second highest in the state. The proportion of such houses in Mayurbhanj district is the highest (92.1 per cent). In the urban areas of Balashwar the highest percentage (54.5 per cent) of houses are found with mud walls in the state. It is the only district in the state of Orissa to have more than 50 per cent of the houses in the urban areas having mud walls. When compared to the 1961 Census data with those of 1971 Census, it was found that in the rural areas of Balashwar the proportion of houses with mud walls has recorded steady fall from 1961 to 1971. In urban areas the district has also shown the decrease in proportion from 79.8 per cent to 54.5 per cent.

In recent years, for better living people prefer burnt brick as wall material. In the rural areas 2.9 per cent and in urban areas 34.5 per cent of such walls are found. It is of interest that Balashwar district has the lowest proportion of burnt brick wall houses in the state. Even so there has been a phenomenal growth of houses with burnt brick as wall material in this district compared to 1961 when the proportion was as low as 8.1 per cent in the urban areas. In rural sector, Balashwar district also recorded the lowest (2.9 per cent) in the state. A few persons in the district have constructed houses with stones, G. I. sheets or other metal sheets as wall material.

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\*Census of India, Orissa, Housing Report and Tables, 1971, p. 29.

Generally grass, leaves, reeds, thatch, wood, mud, bamboo, tiles, corrugated iron, asbestos cement sheets and R. B. C./R. C. C. are used as materials for construction of roofs in the district. But the incidence of grass, leaves, reeds, thatch and bamboo as roof materials in the rural areas was 93.4 per cent in 1971. This is the second highest in the state. Phulabani (formerly Boudh-Khondmals) district occupied the highest (95.6 per cent) position in this respect. In the urban areas 59.7 per cent houses are found with thatched roofs. This proportion is also next to Phulabani (formerly Boudh-Khondmals) (66.3 per cent). Compared to 1961 figure, a continuous decrease in the proportion of thatched houses is noticed during the decade 1961—71. This is a clear indication that people prefer better roofing materials than grass, leaves and reeds. The use of tiles, slate or shingle as roof material is the lowest in the State. But it recorded an increase in 1971 over that of 1961 in the rural and urban areas. The proportion of houses with corrugated iron/zinc or other metal sheets as roof material is only 1.3 per cent in the rural and 8.5 per cent in the urban areas of the district in 1971. The 1961 Census has recorded 0.5 per cent and 4 per cent of such houses respectively in the district. Higher proportion of houses with asbestos cement sheets are noticed in the urban areas than in the rural areas of the district. In the urban areas the district has 7.4 per cent houses with asbestos cement sheet roof whereas the proportion is below one in the rural areas in 1971. Houses with asbestos cement sheet as roof material was 0.2 per cent in rural and 2.3 per cent in urban areas in Baleshwar according to the 1961 Census. Comparing the data of 1961 Census with that of 1971 Census an impressive increase in proportion is noticed in the matter.

Cement, concrete and iron rods are available throughout the district. People whose economic condition is good now prefer R. C. C. roof than other materials. In this district, 1971 Census has recorded 19.5 per cent houses with stone, concrete, R. B. C./R. C. C. as roof materials in urban areas. The percentage of houses with such materials was 9.4 in 1961. As for the rural areas, Baleshwar district has recorded 0.3 per cent in 1961 and 1.1 per cent in 1971, houses with R. C. C. or R. B. C. as roof material. In urban areas, the increase is impressive than the rural areas.

Since the cost of building construction materials are increasing day by day it has become impossible for the poor people to construct a house. Under this circumstances Government have decided to construct low-cost houses for the poorest of the poor belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and freed bonded labourers in the rural areas. Keeping this in view "Indira Awas Yojana" has been formulated by the Government under the 20-point programme. This scheme is fully funded by the Central Government. It was

taken up in a big way during 1985-86 after its announcement in the Parliament by the then Finance Minister in May 1985. Under "Indira Awas Yojana" number of houses provided to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and others in Baleshwar district are given below\*.

Sl. No.	Name of the Block	No. of houses allotted to the persons in the year					
		1985-86			1986-87		
		S. C.	S. T.	Total	S. C.	S. T.	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1	Bhograi	..	..	..	36	20	56
2	Jaleshwar	..	..	..	..	..	..
3	Basta	..	..	..	10	10	20
4	Baliapal	..	..	..	26	..	26
5	Khaira	..	..	..	15	7	22
6	Similia	..	..	..	18	3	21
7	Bahanaga	..	..	..	14	..	14
8	Soro	..	..	..	..	26	26
9	Bhadrak	..	..	..	40	..	40
10	Tihidi	..	..	..	128	..	128
11	Bant	..	..	..	18	..	18
12	Dhamnagar	..	..	..	99	..	99
13	Oupada	..	..	..	25	..	25
14	Nilagiri	..	..	..	..	28	28
15	Remuna	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total		..	..	..	429	94	523

\*District Rural Development Agency, Baleshwar.

### Household utensils, furniture and house decoration

Most of the people live modestly. Their household articles comprises ordinary utensils, tin boxes and bamboo-made *pedis* (box), agricultural implements, earthen pots of different shapes and sizes and some bamboo-made articles like baskets.

The utensils used by the people are generally of bell-metal, brass, aluminium and stone. Big bowls of bell-metal are found in each household. The affluent ones have brass pitchers for fetching and storing water. Dishes, cups and tumblers made of the same substance are in common use. For cooking, earthen pots and pans of aluminium and iron are used by all the households. As stone utensil factories are found in Nilagiri region of the district, most of the villagers use stone dishes, cups and bowls. In many families use of stainless steel utensils are also found. It is gaining popularity more in urban areas than in rural areas of the district.

Bamboo-made baskets, winnowing fans, broom sticks, etc., are used by all. Articles of value are stored in *Sinduka*, trunk and bamboo-made *pedis*. In sophisticated families these items have become obsolete. They are now using steel almirahs and iron chests. *Dhenki*, the wooden huller is found more or less in every village. Use of such device has considerably decreased due to advent of rice hullers. *Sila* and *Chaki*, the grinding stones are common to all households. Modern devices of grinding are gradually replacing the traditional household appliances in many parts of the district.

Like other household articles *Batua* is also found in many houses. It is used to keep *pan*, *chuna*, *khaira*, *gundi*, and *guakati*. People carry it wherever they go and prepare *khilipan* instantly when they like to chew it. This fashion is still popular among the older generation mostly in rural areas.

Well-to-do families in the district use various types of furniture for a comfortable living. They possess chairs, tables, sofa sets, bench, stool, almirah, dressing table, bedsteads, wardrobe and other furniture made of wood, cane or steel according to their need, taste, status and capacity. Those who cannot afford remain content with wooden bedstead, chair, table, bench and stool of ordinary type. In the district most of the houses have no furniture but stringed charpoys. The frame of the charpoys are made of wood and the strings used is either of jute or Sabai grass.

All the 7 towns of the district, viz., Balেশwar, Bhadrak, Jaleshwar, Soro, Nilagiri, Chandbali and Basudebpur are electrified. Besides that 2660 villages (69.42 per cent) have been electrified till the

31st March 1986. The electricity consumers use television, radio, transistor, heater, table and ceiling fan. Non-electricity consumers use lamp, lantern and petromax. Those households who have no lanterns use kerosene lamps made of tin called 'Dibiri'. Bicycle is commonly used by the people. A few persons have mopeds, scooters, motor cycles and motor cars.

In addition to household equipment, the people of Balashwar decorate their dwelling houses on festive and ceremonial occasions. They smear their floors and walls with cow-dung and coloured earth or pastes. On all Thursdays, especially during the month of Margasira (November-December) Hindus decorate their floors, walls and door steps by drawing floral, geometrical, anthropomorphical and zoomorphical designs with the help of *chita* or *alpana* in honour of the goddess Lakshmi. The doors and windows of the houses are often artistically carved with different designs to arrest the eyes of the visitors. Proficiency in *alpana* or *chita* was considered to be a prerequisite of the Hindu housewife and the tradition still persists in many parts of the district. Apart from these, houses of well-to-do families are also decorated with door and window screens, door mats and flower pots. Some of the house walls are also decorated with photographs and calendars bearing pictures of gods and goddesses, eminent national leaders, scenery and toys.

### Dress

Generally, men wear *dhoti*, *gamuchha* and *jungi*. They also use shirt, vest, pant, trouser, bush shirt and coat. Women put on *sari*. Use of blouse and *saya* has also become common except by the poorest of the poor ladies. The widows do not use bordered saris. Girls put on frocks, jumpers and middy blouses.

During winter, the common men use cotton jerseys, coarse cotton Chaddars or wrappers. The women, at home, do not generally use any extra garment for the winter. Children are provided with jackets, cardigans and cheap quality dress materials. The affluent ones use woolen wrappers.

During summer and the rainy season most of the people use umbrellas. In rural areas the common people use *pakhias* made of palmyra-palm leaves. It is also used by members of both the sex while working in the field.

Cheap *chappals* are used by men when they move out. Women rarely use any footwear. The members of the affluent families use good quality chappals, socks and shoes.

### Ornaments

The people of Baleshwar wear a variety of ornaments. In the past the principal ornaments used by the women in the head were *tiara* and *sinthi* of gold or silver. Young women use hair pins with floral embroideries which are generally made of silver and sometimes of nickel also. They are called *matha phulakanta* and *matha panakanta*. For the neck they use *Champakadi*, *Kanthi*, *jhinjira* and necklace made of gold or silver. For the arms they use armlets called *taita* and for the wrists they use bangles and bracelets of silver or gold called *bala*, *chudi*, *sankha*, *bataphala*, *modabala*, *paincha* and *katuri*. They also use bangles made of glass or plastic of different colours and designs. For the ears and nose, gold ornaments are used. The nose ornaments are called *dandi*, *nakaphula*, *phuli* and *nuduka*. Out of these, the *dandi* which is set with stones is the most common ornament. Ear-tops and ear-rings of various designs for the ears are used. *Phasia*, *noli* and *kanachampa* are common ear ornaments for the women. Silver and gold rings are worn in the fingers. *Chandrahara* a stout chain of silver is used round the waist. Anklets of silver called *bankia* are used on the ankles. Rings of silver are also used in the toes by the women. All these ornaments are not for daily use. It is only on festive occasions and ceremonies that the women put on most of their ornaments.

The men ordinarily do not use ornament but some wear rings of gold, silver or nickel in their fingers. According to the financial condition of the people, the use of ornaments varies from cheap materials to gold ornaments.

### Personal decoration

There is no speciality in the hair style of women. The grown up and middle aged women generally tie their hair into knots behind after combing with combs made of wood, horn or plastic. The younger ones particularly of the higher caste Hindu families love to have plaits dangling on their back. Men generally trim their hairs short.

Some women have tattoo marks on their limbs. Generally geometrical figures on the elbows and dot marks on the forehead of women irrespective of caste are noticed. Such marks are also seen on the palm and feet. Some men have their own names or the names of gods tattooed on their forearms. It is believed by women that the tattoo marks save them from being punished by the Yama, the god of Death. This fashion is no more in vogue.

### Food

The food habits of the people are simple. Those staying in rural areas have not changed much by the passage of time. Their main food still consists of rice, Dal and vegetable curry. For breakfast and even for lunch the rural folk mainly women and children

take watered rice called *pakhal*. The food habits of the urban people have, however, changed appreciably in recent times. They generally take rice, Roti or bread, Dal and vegetables with some Ghee (clarified butter). The well-to-dos in towns add such ancillary items as salad, chutney, pickle and some extra vegetables. The evening meals usually consists of Roti and vegetable curry. Some people repeat *bhat* and dal also at night. Fish, meat, egg, dried fish, lobster and crab are taken when available. On the occasion of feasts or festivals the meal is supplemented by sweetmeats and savouries. Each community has a special culinary item to suit the occasion. The festive dishes vary according to one's taste and purse. Most people have two meals a day, one at noon and the other in the night. In between principal meals people usually eat *pitha* (rice cakes), *chuda* (flattened rice), *muri* (puffed rice) and *khai* (pop rice) as tiffin. Popular Indian recipes are available in restaurants, both big and small throughout the district. *Palua ladu* of Bhadrak and *Gaja* of Baleshwar are well-known as special sweetmeats in the state. Drinking tea is very common among the people. It was rarely used as drink fifty years ago. Nowadays it has become a universal drink. In summer the people of Baleshwar quench their thirst with cool drinks, Sherbats and aerated waters. Smoking and chewing of betel leaves are common in the district. Apart from that people relish smoking and chewing tobacco. Some are also addicted to *ganja* and *bhang*.

Mustard oil and Ghee were used as the medium of cooking since long. Nowadays groundnut oil, vanaspati and the recently introduced imported palm oil are being used widely for preparation of cakes and other delicacies. Ghee is used very sparingly and mostly by the well-to-do to prepare delicacies for offering to the deities during festivals. Pure Ghee has become not only costly but also a rarity.

Firewood from forests is used as the principal fuel in the district. Dried leaves are collected and stored specially for boiling paddy. Cow-dung is also made into balls or flattened cakes and dried in the sun to be used as fuel. Besides kerosene stoves and electric heaters, cooking gas is gradually becoming popular in urban areas. Bio-gas plants are gradually increasing in number in the district. The figures are given below:\*

Period	Number of Bio-gas plants installed
1984-85	61
1985-86	273
1986-87	251

\*Project Officer, District Rural Development Agency, Baleshwar.



**COMMUNAL LIFE****Pilgrim centre**

The important pilgrim centres of the district are given below :

Sl. No.	Name of the pilgrim centres	Police-station	Famous temple/tomb	Religion
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Aradi ..	Chandbali	Siva temple (Akhandalmani)	Hindu
2	Chandaneswar (Huguli village) ..	Bhograi	Siva temple	Hindu
3	Panchalingeswar ..	Nilagiri	Siva temple	Hindu
4	Remuna ..	Remuna	(a) Khirachora Gopinath temple (b) Tomb of Gulab Shah Shahid	Hindu Muslim

Salient features about these places are given in the Chapter XIX (Places of Interest).

**Communal Dance**

Chhau Nancha, Danda Nacha, Chadhei Chadheiani Nacha and Kandhei Nacha are popular in the district. Description of some dances are given below.

**Chhau dance**

Patronised by the ex-rulers Chhau dance was prevalent in Nilagiri, Bonai, Kendujhar and Mayurbhanj area in the state of Orissa. At Nilagiri Chhau dance takes place at the subdivisional headquarters once a year during the month of April. Mainly male members participate in this dance. Different types of dresses are used by the artists for performing this dance. Most of the dances are based on the mythological themes such as Radha-Krishna Milan, Tandaba Nrutya of Siva, war dance, etc. Background songs are provided during the performances of the dance. Funds are being sanctioned by the Orissa State Government from time to time for the upliftment of the dance. The Swarnachuda Chhau Nrutya Anusthan, Nilagiri, is receiving an annual grant of

Rs.500/- from the Orissa Sangeet Natak Akademi. This organisation is in a moribund condition. It is seldom capable to show its performances even once a year.

### **Danda Nacha**

Danda Nacha (dance) is a ritual dance. The participants of the dance are the devotees of Hara-parvati. They perform the dance in the month of Chaitra (March-April) and Vaishakha (April-May). Danda begins on an auspicious day before the Chaitra Sankranti or Mahavishuva Sankranti with traditional worship and fasting. This dance consists of a series of different dances which are performed one after another by the male members generally belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. The music of the Danda Nacha varies for different dances. The songs are of different tunes for different characters. The songs are mainly devotional and are based on the stories from the epics.

### **Fairs and Festivals**

Fairs and festivals are important not only because of the religious significance and holiness attached to their observance but also because of the welcome change they bring into the otherwise dull and drab routine of every day life. These are occasions of community mirth and delight of meeting relative and friends. The festivals usually signify a much needed rest from routine work and every one appears at his best in resplendent cloths. Apart from the traditional worship of the gods and deities of the occasion and remembrance of ancestors, preparations and partaking of good food, singing and dancing welcoming friends and relatives are the highlights of each festival. Some religious functions like Janmastami and Durga Puja are community festivals while others like "Prathamastami" are confined to family celebrations as per Oriya almanac.

### **Chandan Jatra**

The Chandan Jatra is observed in many villages under Balleshwar, Khaira, Soro, Bhograi, Baliapal, Basudebpur and Nilagiri police-stations. It starts from Akshya Trutiya and continues for 21 days. Due to pressure on purse, it is observed for 4 or 5 days at many places.

### **Baruni Jatra**

Baruni is observed on the 13th day of the dark fortnight in the month of Chaitra (March-April). On this day many people take holy dip in the Pandab Ghat of Balleshwar. They pay oblation to their ancestors and visit nearby temples to offer

prayer. This festival is also held at Govindapur (Baleshwar P. S.), Bedpur (Similia P. S.), Anantapur (Soro P. S.), Dogra (Baliapal P. S.), Chaumukhi (Baliapal P. S.), Barunei (Tihiri P. S.) and Chatrapada (Tihiri P. S.). If Baruni Snana falls on Saturday and in Satavisa Nakshetra then it is called Mahabaruni Joga.

### **Chadak Jatra**

The Chadak Jatra is celebrated in Chandaneswar temple on the last day in the month of Chaitra (March-April). It is situated in the village Huguli under Bhograi police-station. About 10,000 people congregate celebrate the festival. Since the temple is situated near the border of Orissa and West Bengal many people from the neighbouring state also attend the festival. Number of temporary stalls are generally opened on the occasion. Health, Electricity, Transport and Public Relations department provide facilities to the people. This festival is also observed in many places under Baliapal, Raibania and Bhandaripokhari police-stations of the district.

### **Raja Sankranti**

Raja is an important festival connected with agriculture. It is observed by people of all walks of life in general and cultivators in particular. It is observed for three consecutive days in the month of Asadha (June-July). The last day of the month of Jyaistha is called Pahili Raja. The first day of Asadha is known as Raja Sankranti. The second day and third day of Asadha are known as Bhuindahan and Basumati Puja respectively.

For the occasion all the houses are cleaned and the well-to-do ones wear new clothes. The women-folk eschew all manual labour for these days. Big rice cakes prepared with a mixture of fine powdered rice, cocoanuts and molasses are enjoyed during the festival. The children dressed in colourful garbs, arrange rope swing in the home or in the open place under mango or banyan trees and enjoy swinging in great revelry and merriment. Even the elderly people join the young ones in amusement and play dice. The young people play 'Bagudi' or 'ha-do-do' on stakes accompanied by beating of Nagara. Ploughing is not done for these three days, the popular belief being that the Mother Earth is in menstruation.

### **Ratha Jatra**

The Ratha Jatra or the Car Festival of Lord Jagannath is held on the second day of the bright fortnight in the month of Asadha (June-July) at Nilagiri, Baleshwar, Bhadrak and other places of the district. The three deities - Jagannath, Balabhadra and

Subhadra - are brought from the main temple and placed in the wooden chariot. After due ceremony, the chariot is drawn with a coir rope by hundreds of devotees to the Shri Gundicha Mandira or Mausima Mandira. The deities remain in that temple for seven days being worshipped. At Nilagiri they assume Mashya, Kashyapa, Baraha, Nrushingha, Bamana, Rama, Balarama, Buddha, Parsuram and Kaliki Abatar. Large number of devotees come for Darshan on these days to the Shri Gundicha Mandira. Businessmen take full advantage of this Jatra and open temporary stalls. Brass and bell-metal utensils, furniture, agricultural implements, bamboo products, various kinds of handicrafts, earthen and stone wares, varieties of foods and stationery articles are generally sold. Circus, opera party and merry-go-round provide entertainment to the persons assembled there.

The return car festival or Bahuda Jatra is performed on Asadha Sukla Dasami, i.e., the tenth day of the bright fortnight. At Nilagiri, the return of the deities from Shri Gundicha Mandira to the main temple generally take two days on the way. This festival is being observed in this subdivision with much pomp and show since the Durbar period.

### **Gamha Purnima**

In the month of Shraban (July-August) Gamha Purnima is celebrated. People worship Lord Balabhadra. Cattle are also worshipped on this day. The other significance of the day is Rakhi-Bandhan. As a bond of protection, sisters tie a coloured silken thread as a sign of love and a plea for eternal protection. It is also believed that the thread will protect the wearer from all evils. The brothers accept the bond and return the honour with a gift. Sweetmeats, cakes and other delicacies are prepared in every house on the occasion.

### **Jhulan Jatra**

The Jhulan Jatra or the swing festival of the deities Radha-Krishna is held from the 10th of the bright fortnight in the month of Shraban (July-August) to the full-moon day. It is observed at many temple and Mathas of the district of which mention may be made of the Khirachora Gopinath temple at Remuna.

### **Janmastami**

Janmastami is observed on the 8th day of the dark fortnight in the month of Shraban (July-August). It is the birthday of Lord Shri Krishna, an incarnation of Vishnu. On this occasion all the Vishnu temples are decorated with light and flower.

A large number of devotees go to the temples for worship. The next day is celebrated as Nanda Ustab. Joyous scenes from Lord Krishna's life are re-enacted and sweets are distributed among the people.

### **Ganesh Chaturthi**

On the fourth day in the month of Bhadrab (August-September) the birth of Ganesh or Ganapati is celebrated. This elephant-headed god of wisdom and prosperity is a popular deity of the Hindus. Known by many names, he is widely worshipped as Vighneshwar, the remover of obstacles. For this he is propitiated at the start of any work or ceremony. His birthday, therefore, is celebrated all over the district.

On Ganesh Chaturthi, the clay idol of the god is brought into the house and installed. It is kept for one day or more according to the will of the worshipper. Whatever may be the period, the idol is worshipped with special prayers in the morning and evening until it is ceremoniously immersed in a river or tank or canal.

Educational institutions in Baleshwar district celebrate Ganesh Chaturthi with great enthusiasm. It is considered to be the most auspicious day of the year, when children are taken to school for the first time to begin their studies.

### **Biswakarma Puja**

People of the district worship Biswakarma, the Maker of the Universe in the month of Bhadrab (August-September). On this day they worship their vocational implements and stop work in the workshop. This worship is no longer confined to the Badhei, Kamar and Tanti castes nowadays due to industrialisation.

### **Karama Parba**

The tribals of the district observe Karama Parba on the 11th day of the full-moon of Bhadrab (September-October). Two branches of Karama tree are brought by three maidens who pitch them in an open space. Handia is offered to the deities near these branches. Children and women dance around the branches to the rhythmic beating of drums. Feast, drinking of Handia and community dancing occupy the greater part of the day and night.

### **Durga Puja**

Durga puja is one of the most popular festivals of the district. It is celebrated in the bright fortnight in the month of Aswina (September-October) This colourful festival begins from Saptami (7th day) and ends on Dasami (10th day).

It was originally celebrated by the rich families of the district. Due to pressure on purse, gradually the practice of community worship of Durga as it prevails today became popular. Clay images of goddess Durga are worshipped at many places in the district with great pomp and splendour of which mention may be made of the celebrations held at Balleshwar, Bhadrak, Nilagiri, Soro, Jaleshwar and Chandbali. The 10th day of the festival is called *Dasahara*. On this day the images are taken out in procession for immersion in tanks or rivers. In some other places the images are immersed on the 11th day. Durga Puja is also celebrated at many *sakta* shrines in the district. Animals were sacrificed to please the deity.

### Kumar Purnima

After Durga Puja comes Kumar Purnima. It is held on the full-moon day in the month of Aswina. On this day the unmarried girls wear new clothes. They worship the rising sun in the morning. They also worship the rising moon in the evening in front of the *tulasi chaura*. Bhoga offered to the full-moon is called *chanda*. Unmarried girls establish friendship by offering *chanda* to each other and call each other by that name. The girls sing song typical to the occasion and play Puchi which is a kind of frolicking game. The children enjoy the whole night by organising cultural programmes.

### Kali Puja and Deepavali

Clay images of goddess Kali are set up and worshipped at Bhadrak, Balleshwar, Tihidi, Chandbali, Soro, Nilagiri and other places in the district and in the famous Bhadrakali temple near Bhadrak. It is observed on the 14th day of the dark fortnight in the month of Kartika (October-November).

The new-moon day of Kartika is known as Deepavali Amabasya or Paya Amabasya. On this day the Hindus in remembrance of their ancestors perform Sradha and bid farewell to them with lighted *kaunria* sticks in the night. Every home is decorated with rows of earthen lamps and the youth and the aged alike enjoy the evening with crackers and fireworks.

### Kartika Purnima

This is observed on the full-moon day in the month of Kartika (October-November). Devotees old and young bathe in the rivers and tanks long before the dawn and then proceed to the temple. The devotees take *habishanna* once in the afternoon and touch no food after sun set. Some observe fasting on all

the Mondays of the month and some do it for five days and yet many others fast on the full-moon day only. On the last day tiny boats made of pith or paper are floated in the tanks, canals and rivers by the people. It is said that the day is reminiscent of the maritime trade and prosperity of the ancient Kalinga empire.

### **Prathamastami**

After Kartika Purnima comes Prathamastami on the month of Margasira (November-December). This is the day for the eldest issue in each family who is provided with new dress mainly from the maternal uncles' family. Cakes and delicacies are prepared in each family in honour of the eldest. The festival is observed by people of all castes.

### **Makar Sankranti**

The first day of Magha (January-February) is known as Makar Sankranti. Many elderly persons take their bath before dawn and on returning home make offerings of sweetmeats and flowers to the Sun God. Cakes and delicacies are prepared in every home. A kind of sweet is specially prepared for the occasion called *tilou*. Powdered rice, treacle and a few grains of sesamum seeds are the components of this cake. This festival is observed both by the caste Hindus and Adivasis. The Adivasis celebrate it for one week whereas the caste Hindus observe it for one day only.

### **Muni Mela**

Muni Mela or Jatra is held on Makar Sankranti at many places of which mention may be made of the celebrations held at Sahupara and Gudu in Baleshwar P. S., Jirtal and Abhana in Soro P. S., Bedeipur in Basudebpur P. S., Kodagambhir in Bhadrak P. S., Khardigmukhura in Remuna P. S., and Ramakrushnapur in Similia P. S.

### **Saraswati Puja**

Saraswati Puja is celebrated throughout the district on the Magha Sukla Panchami with usual gaiety and enthusiasm. The people decorate the clay image of Saraswati, the goddess of learning with flowers and offer sweetmeats and fruits. Children wear new dress on the occasion. In many homes children are initiated to the alphabet.

### Sivaratri

Sivaratri is celebrated in all the temples of Lord Siva on the 14th day of the dark fortnight in the month of Phalguna (February-March). The devotees remain on fasting for the whole day and night and break their fast the next morning. Both men and women observe this festival. Number of devotees assemble on the festive day in the Siva temple and offer their Pujas with the help of the Brahmin priest. From dusk till dawn earthen lamps with cotton wicks immersed in Ghee remain burning continuously for the whole night. The devotees sit in lines watching over their lamps under improvised sheds of trees and the illumination presents a beautiful spectacle. Towards the dawn a lamp called "Maha Dipa" is taken to the top of the temple. The devotees watch this ceremony with keen interest and break their fast after it is over.

The festival is observed with great pomp and splendour at the Akhandalmari temple in Aradi under Chandbali P. S., Chandaneswar temple at Huguli under Bhogra P. S., Anijo Mahadev temple at Anijo under Bant P. S., Nangaleswar under Singla P. S., Ayodhya and Panchalingeswar in Shyamasundarpur Grama Panchayat under Nilagiri P. S. and Jhadeswar temple at Nayabazar in Baleshwar town.

On the occasion of Sivaratri temporary stalls are opened in and outside the temple premises. The villagers specially the womenfolk get an opportunity to select and purchase their requisites. Children enjoy sweetmeats from the stalls. Jattras and musical entertainments keep the visitors merry all through the night.

### Salui Puja

Salui Puja or Baha is observed on Dola Purnima day (February-March) by the tribals of the district. The aim of this festival is to celebrate the advent of spring when *sal*, *palas* and *mohua* flowers blossom.

In the morning the villagers gather near a *sal* tree laden with blossoms and offer plantains, milk, honey and flowers to the Bongas (Supreme Being). Some youngmen then cut small branches containing the Blossoms which are taken home and fixed on the thresholds. Crescent moons are pointed at the entrance door with vermilion and oil.



After this the water festival follows. Coloured water is thrown on all men and women, young or old which resembles very much the Holi festival. All those participating in the festival take their bath before the evening. They all drink Handia and spend the moonlit night in dancing and singing.

### **Dola Jatra**

The last festival of the Hindu almanac is Dola Purnima. It is celebrated on the full-moon day of the month of Phalguna (February-March). This festival is enjoyed for five days beginning with Phagu Dasami (10th phase of the moon) and concluding on the full-moon day. On this occasion the images of Radha and Krishna are brought from the temple altar and placed in a decorated Biman and carried in procession from house to house where they get Bhoga (offerings). All the communities join in the festival. Coloured powder (Abira) and coloured water are freely used all these days. In some places people observe Panchu Dola and Dasa Dola from the next day of Phagu Purnima or Dola Purnima. Images of Radha and Krishna are also brought from different villages to the Melan Padia (a meadow for meeting) where all enjoy in merriments. Sweet stalls and varieties of shops sit in this field. The whole area is agog with excitement.

This is also the main festival of the people belonging to Gauda caste. They worship the cow and play Naudi (a play with sticks) by singing songs relating to Radha and Krishna.

This festival is celebrated with pomp, grandeur and pageantry at Padampur in Baleshwar P. S., Ara, Maitapur and Khirkona in Similia P. S., Patirajpur, Golia in Khaira P. S., Abhana and Barikpur in Soro P. S., Mathani and Pinchabania in Basta P. S., Dakhinbar in Bhandaripokhari P. S., Kothar and Bayangdihi in Dhamnagar P. S., Kalimegha in Tihidi P. S., Motto in Chandbali P. S., Singla in Singla P. S., Brahmangan in Basudebpur P. S., Hatasahi in Nilagiri P. S., and Matiali in Berhampur P. S.

### **Christian Festivals**

The Christians of the district observe New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter Saturday, Easter Sunday, Easter Monday, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day with great pomp and show.

### **Muslim Festivals**

The Muslim inhabitants celebrate Id-UI-Fitre, Id-UI-Zuha, Shab-E-Barat, Shab-E-Quadar, Juma-Tul-Wida, Muharram, Shab-E-Maraj, Milad-Un-Nabi and Ramzan like their fellow brethren in other parts of the state. Of these, the very important festivals celebrated by Muslims are Id-UI-Fitre, Id-UI-Zuha and Muharram.

Id-UI-Fitre comes with the new-moon and marks the end of Ramzan, the 9th month of the Muslim year. Muslims keep a fast every day during this month and on the completion of the period, which is usually decided by the appearance of the new-moon, Id-UI-Fitre is celebrated. On the occasion, prayers are offered in mosques and the Idgahs. People greet each other warmly. Hindus and Muslims join in the celebration of this great festival.

Id-UI-Zuha commemorates the ordeal of Hazrat Ibrahim, who was put to a severe test once by God. When he was asked to sacrifice what was dearest to him, he decided to sacrifice the life of his son. When he was on the point of applying the sword to his son's neck, it was revealed to him by the God that this was meant only to test his faith. Instead of it, he was asked to sacrifice only a ram. Id-UI-Zuha is celebrated on the 10th day of Zilhijjat, when the Haj festival at Mecca are rounded off by the sacrifice of goats and camels.

The observance of Muharram commemorates the tragic death of the Prophet Muhammad's grandson. The first days of Muharram, which is the first month of the Muslim year, are dedicated to the mourning and martyrdom of Hazrat Imam Hussain, the grandson of prophet Muhammad.

### **Recreation**

Leisure and recreation are essential for life. After hardwork, people usually assemble in the temple, church, mosque and Gurudwara to offer prayer for refreshment of mind. Sometimes they also meet at places to listen to the recitals from Ramayan, Mahabharata, Bhagabat Purana, Gita, Koran, Bible and Granth Sahib. Some people get pleasure by singing classical, modern and devotional songs with the help of musical instruments. Occasionally, acrobatic feats, monkey dance, bear dance, snake-charming and magic performed by professional groups provide entertainment to the people. In some places amateur dramatic clubs

stage dramas. The theatre parties display folk-dances and operas. Pala and Daskathia also provide recreation to most of the people in this district. Film is a common source of entertainment. There are 19 film houses in the district. These are located at Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Soro, Jaleshwar, Chandbali, Deulahat, Chandaneswar, Madhabanagar, Remuna, Asurali, Basudebpur, Bhograi, Sugo, Basta, Karanda and Nangaleshwar. Besides these, the social and religious functions round the year keep engaged the people in gay and mirth.

Libraries, reading rooms, television and radio sets provide more recreational facility to the people. Sometimes people of all walks of life assemble in public places to discuss about the regional, national and international affairs and exchange their views.

Fishing is a favourite pastime. Cock-fighting is popular among the tribal people. Although poaching in the forests is prohibited under law, some people at times go to the hills in Nilagiri area with their guns, bows and arrows and bag some game birds. Schools, colleges and athletic clubs in the district offer opportunities to the students for out-door games. Poor as the majority of the people are, they can spare very little time for recreation. Yet indulgence in in-door games like playing cards, dice and ludu is not rare. Sixty-five recreational clubs and associations are functioning in the district, most of which organise various cultural programmes and athletic meets to promote competitive spirits among the boys and girls. समयव जयत

Hotels and restaurants are also places for social gathering and amusements. There are a few good hotels and restaurants in Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Chandbali, Chandipur and Nilagiri. Besides, people also find pleasure in visiting picnic spots, parks and garden. In the district Dhamara, Chandbali, Kuldiha, Panchalingeswar, Remuna, Aradi, Ayodhya, Abhana, Chandaneswar, Kupari, Raibania, Talasari and Chandipur picnic spots attract a large number of persons from all walks of life.

## APPENDIX I

**Population of the Scheduled Castes of Balashwar District  
(According to 1971 Census)\***

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheduled Castes	Males	Females	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Adi Andhra ..	6	5	10
2	Amanat or Amat ..	680	550	1,230
3	Bagheti or Baghuti ..	893	927	1,820
4	Bari ..	58	65	113
5	Bariki ..	1,343	1,341	2,684
6	Basor or Burud ..	13	12	25
7	Bauri ..	602	592	1,194
8	Bedia or Bejia ..	..	6	6
9	Bhata ..	56	45	101
10	Bhoi ..	17	20	37
11	Chamar, Mochi. Muchi or Satnami	6,566	6,702	13,268
12	Chandala ..	2	2	4
13	Dandasi ..	3	3	6
14	Dewar ..	44	46	90
15	Dhanwar ..	1	..	1
16	Dhoba or Dhobi ..	20,008	19,875	39,883
17	Dom, Dombo or Duria Dom ..	2,644	2,653	5,297
18	Ghasi or Ghasia ..	88	88	176
19	Ghusuria ..	1,237	994	2,231
20	Godra ..	71	48	119
21	Gokha ..	27,720	26,618	54,338
22	Haddi, Hadi or Hari ..	4,911	4,722	9,633
23	Jaggali ..	162	150	312
24	Kandra or Kandara ..	27,288	26,362	53,650
25	Karua ..	253	248	501
26	Kela ..	1,158	1,425	2,583
27	Kodalo or Khodalo ..	4,567	3,768	8,355

\*Census of India, Orissa, Part-II-C (I) 1971, pp. 194—196.

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheduled Castes	Males	Females	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
28	Kummari ..	151	139	290
29	Kurunga ..	851	819	1,670
30	Laheri ..	36	59	95
31	Madari ..	16	15	31
32	Madiga ..	13	14	27
33	Mahuria ..	871	993	1,864
34	Mala, Jhala, Malo or Zala ..	8	—	8
35	Mehra or Mahar ..	35	32	67
36	Mehtar or Bhangi ..	607	621	1,228
37	Musahar ..	1	—	1
38	Nagarchi ..	1	—	1
39	Namasudra ..	2,953	2,926	5,879
40	Pan or Pano ..	46,946	45,086	92,832
41	Pantanti ..	1,475	1,407	2,882
42	Pap ..	—	1	1
43	Patial Patikar, Patratanti or Patua ..	1,330	1,189	2,519
44	Rajna ..	2	7	9
45	Relli ..	20	23	43
46	Sabakhia ..	166	144	310
47	Sanei ..	—	1	1
48	Sinduria ..	1	—	1
49	Siyal ..	383	276	659
50	Tamadia ..	262	211	473
51	Tiar or Tior ..	150	130	280
52	Turi ..	5	—	5
53	Ujia ..	6,062	6,081	12,143
54	Valamiki or Valmiki ..	52	69	121
	Unspecified ..	9,296	8,399	17,695

## APPENDIX II

**Population of the Scheduled Tribes of Balashwar District  
(According to 1971 Census).\***

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheduled Tribes	Males	Females	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Bagata ..	27	39	66
2	Bathudi ..	4,917	5,049	9,966
3	Bhuiya or Bhuyan ..	668	733	1,401
4	Bhumij ..	13,992	13,801	27,793
5	Bhunja ..	5	8	13
6	Binjhia or Binjhoa ..	6	10	16
7	Dal ..	68	111	179
8	Dharua ..	356	299	655
9	Gond, Gondo ..	49	104	198
10	Ho ..	113	94	207
11	Juang ..	17	6	23
12	Kandha Gauda ..	132	126	258
13	Kawar ..	..	4	4
14	Kharia or Kharian ..	526	617	1,143
15	Kharwar ..	22	21	43
16	Khond, , Kond or Kandha including Nanguli Kandha and Sitha Kandha	47	39	86
17	Kol ..	19	19	38
18	Kolah-kol-Loharas ..	..	4	4
19	Kolha ..	10,787	9,030	19,817

\* Census of India, Orissa, Part-II-C (I) 1971, pp. 266-268.

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheduled Tribes	Males	Females	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
20	Kora ..	150	149	299
21	Korua ..	80	52	132
22	Kotia ..	2	..	2
23	Lodha ..	11	11	22
24	Madia ..	13	17	30
25	Mahali ..	189	119	308
26	Mankirdia ..	17	24	41
27	Matya ..	184	138	322
28	Mirdha ..	10	2	12
29	Munda, Munda Lohara or Munda Mahalis ..	1,776	1,709	3,485
30	Mundari ..	412	495	907
31	Oraon ..	597	683	1,280
32	Parenga ..	..	1	1
33	Paroja ..	3	..	3
34	Pentia ..	5	23	28
35	Rajuar ..	19	24	43
36	Santal ..	22,855	24,066	46,921
37	Saora, Savar, Saura or Sahara ..	421	602	1,023
38	Shabar or Lodha ..	1,540	1,490	3,030
39	Sounti ..	705	599	1,304
40	Tharua ..	35	27	62
	Unspecified ..	4,444	3,583	8,027
	Total ..	65,264	63,928	129,192

## APPENDIX III

**Statistics of cases of atrocities on the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and cases under Public Civil Rights Act.\***

Year	Scheduled Castes						
	Reported	Charge sheeted	Final Report	Pending Investigation	Convicted	Acquitted	Pending trial
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1985	5	4	1	..	1	..	3
1986	4	4	..	..	..	..	4
1987 (up to May).	1	1	..	..	..	..	1

Year	Scheduled Tribes						
	Reported	Charge sheeted	Final Report	Pending Investigation	Convicted	Acquitted	Pending trial
(1)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)
1985	1	1	..	..	..	..	1
1986	1	1	..	..	..	..	1
1987 (up to May).	2	2	..	..	..	..	2

Year	Public Civil Rights Act						
	Reported	Charge sheeted	Final Report	Pending Investigation	Convicted	Acquitted	Pending trial
(1)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)	(22)
1985	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1986	2	2	..	..	..	..	2
1987 (up to May).	1	1	..	..	..	..	1

\* Deputy Inspector-General of Police HA &amp; E.D. Orissa, Cuttack.



## APPENDIX IV

## Number of Wills Registered in the district \*

Year	No. of wills registered
(1)	(2)
1969	54
1970	41
1971	34
1972	44
1973	53
1974	49
1975	42
1976	41
1977	56
1978	57
1979	56
1980	67
1981	71
1982	83
1983	84
1984	104
1985	78
Total	914

\*District Registrar, Balashwar.

## APPENDIX V

**Number of Civil Marriages filed and registered  
under Special Marriage Act, 1954. \***

Year	No. of marriage notices filed	No. of marriages registered
(1)	(2)	(3)
1969	50	16
1970	34	10
1971	44	13
1972	45	22
1973	52	13
1974	72	29
1975	70	14
1976	91	39
1977	90	30
1978	97	32
1979	144	44
1980	144	61
1981	151	49
1982	131	42
1983	164	46
1984	187	84
1985	200	85
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,766</b>	<b>629</b>

\*District Registrar, Balashwar.

## CHAPTER IV

### AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

#### INTRODUCTION

The district popularly known as the granary of Orissa is divided into three natural divisions viz., (i) the coastal belt comprising parts of Bhograi, Baliapal, Basta, Baleshwar, Bahanaga, Basudebpur, Remuna, Tihiri and Chandbali blocks, (ii) the submountainous region comprising parts of Bant, Khaira, Oupada, Nilagiri, Basta and Jaleshwar blocks, and (iii) between them a zone of highly fertile land intersected by a net-work of rivers known as central alluvial plains, comprising Dhamnagar, Bhandaripokhari, Bhadrak, Similia, Soro and Remuna blocks. To the east is a low-lying tract, a great part of which is impregnated with salt and exposed to damage from storm-waves. To the west, is an uncultivable region of high undulating land covered with bamboos and scrub jungles. Between these two tracts lie the alluvial plains, forming the greater part of the district, which presents a gradual and steady slope from the high lands of the west to the sea and a composition varying according to the relative proportion of the sand and silt of which they are formed<sup>1</sup>. According to the figures of 1981 Census, out of the total working population of 6,12,847 in the district, 4,84,956 persons, i. e., 79.20 per cent were engaged in agriculture as cultivators and agricultural labourers. In the year 1984-85, the total net sown area of the district was 4,49,000 hectares of which only 1,02,237 hectares and 36,648 hectares were irrigated in Kharif and Rabi seasons respectively and the rest was dependant on rainfalls only. The district was very poor in respect of irrigation facility till 1961 after which there has been some improvement. Having an average annual rainfall of 1583 mm., lack of irrigation facilities does not pose a problem for agricultural work unless there is exceptional adverse weather condition. Although it is the rice-pot of the state, still then visitation of natural calamities like flood, drought and cyclone to this district is frequent. Paddy is the main crop. Mung, Biri, Arhar, maize, groundnut, sugarcane and other crops are also cultivated.

#### History of agricultural development in the district

Prior to independence, agriculture of the district was almost fully dependant on rain which was erratic. Moreover, this coastal district is subjected to floods at frequent intervals. In 1905, the Ministry of Scientific Agriculture was created and specific recommendations were formulated to study any adverse weather condition.

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1. L. S. S. O' Malley, Bengal District Gazetteers, Balasore, 1907, Chapter-V, Agriculture.

An Agricultural Scientist was appointed to study the problems of cyclone, flood and drought prone areas in the country. In 1929 the Indian Agriculture Research Institute was established at Pusa and a number of research projects were formulated for the entire country. Subsequently during 1938-42 Grow More Food campaign was launched to motivate the farmers for use of chemical fertilisers. Japanese method of paddy cultivation was introduced with all improved technology but the production level did not increase to the desired extent. From 1966 onwards various research co-ordinated projects were undertaken through the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) and a series of institutes of agricultural research together with their sub-stations were established throughout the country, covering major crops, problems of soil, salinity, drought prone area programme for arid zone, watershed management along with development of agriculture engineering, fishery and animal husbandry. Many constraints have come in the way of implementing the agricultural programmes, the most important being natural calamities. Till now the cultivation in the district is predominated by the traditional method of cultivation. The numbers of small and marginal farmers is too high. They are not in a position to avail themselves of the modern technology to improve their yield. As a result, the productivity of the lands has not appreciably increased inspite of application of modern technology in use of fertilisers, pesticides, high-yielding varieties of seeds, etc.

In 1947-48, one District Agriculture Officer post was created in the district. The District Agriculture Officer, Salandi Irrigation Project, Bhadrak was functioning at Bhadrak since 1966-67. Prior to 1976-77 under the scheme of National Extension Services, the Agriculture Extension Officers were assisting Block Development Officers in all the C. D. Blocks. During 1977, under the World Bank assistance, the agricultural extension was reorganised and T & V system was introduced to provide for training of Agricultural Extension Officers and leading cultivators and their frequent visits to farmers fields on a continuing basis. One Deputy Director of Agriculture was posted to each district for overall supervision of all agricultural activity in the district.

#### LAND UTILISATION

The total geographical area<sup>1</sup> of the district was 6,47,000 hectares of which the gross cropped area was 6,28,334 hectares in 1984-85.

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1. According to the Survey of India, the total geographical area of the district is 630'42 sq. km, (in 1987).

The statement below gives a picture of the land utilisation in the district during 1984-85.<sup>1</sup>

	(in hectares)
Forest <sup>2</sup>	40,000
Barren and uncultivated land	24,000
Land put to non-agricultural use	51,000
Culturable waste	18,000
Permanent pasture and grazing land	26,000
Miscellaneous trees and groves	28,000
Current fallows	17,000
Other fallows	9,000
Net area sown	4,49,000

#### SOIL CONSERVATION

In Baleshwar district a Soil Conservation Subdivision at the district headquarters is functioning from 1963-64 to undertake soil conservation measures. The problem of soil erosion is acute in the district due to flat slopping and undulating topography, rainfall, and salinity accumulation.

The western hilly terrain consisting of hills, hill slopes and piedmont plains without bunds and terraces, estimated to be 85,299 hectares, i.e., 70 per cent of the total area of 1,21,850 hectares, suffers from acute soil erosion like sheet, rill and gully erosion. This is due to over-exploitation of forests, grazing land, improper land use practices and terrain conditions.

The middle region of the district, i.e., alluvial plain estimated to be 1,65,888 hectares, i.e., 45 per cent of total area of 3,68,640 hectares, suffers from sheet erosion and stream bank erosion due to meandering nature of streams and rivers. As a result, valuable agricultural fields and homestead area are being damaged.

In the coastal belt, wind erosion and shifting of sand-dunes are some of the typical problem of erosion. In these areas soil salinity is widespread due to frequent inundation of agricultural lands by sea water during high tide and cyclonic periods. In this region also stream bank erosion, sheet erosion and rill erosion and sand-casting in agricultural land during high flood are observed.

1. Source—Deputy Director of Agriculture, Baleshwar.

2. According to the Forest Department the total forest area of the district is 359'67 sq. km.

In between sea and coastal plain a new land type known as coastal swamp (mangroves) which has been formed due to receding of sea estimated to be 14,000 hectares is lying fallow. A project profile for reclamation of coastal swamp and shelter belt plantation in the coastal belt from Udayapur to Dhamara has been submitted to the State Government by the Directorate of Soil Conservation.

A number of anti-erosion measures have been taken up by the Government. These measures include development of pastures in eroded land, massive tree plantation in drought-hit areas, plantation of cashew and other economic species in waste lands, contour bunding, levelling, gully control and conservation of farming, etc. For the prevention of soil erosion, cashew plantation over an area of 1052.20 hectares and miscellaneous plantation over an area of 80.40 hectares have been undertaken in the hill slopes, upland and government waste lands. Besides, bunding and terracing over an area of 48.87 hectares of crop land belonging to the tribal farmers in Nilagiri, ITDA has been done. By the end of 1984-85, five units of gully control structures have been constructed in hilly areas. In order to conserve soil and water, 17 farm ponds and 65 numbers of water harvesting structures have been constructed to harvest rain water for re-cycling the same for irrigation creating 732 hectares of ayacut area by the end of 1984-85.

One Soil Conservation Demonstration Centre (48 acres) and another Pasture Development Centre (25 acres) have been established at Nilagiri and Panapana with a view to demonstrating different aspects of soil and water conservation to multiply seeds and planting materials for subsequent utilisation.

In recent years emphasis is being given on construction of water harvesting structures and miscellaneous tree plantations under the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) and National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) sponsored by the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA).

## IRRIGATION

The Balasore District Gazetteer of 1907 says that owing to the ample supply of rainfall in ordinary years, irrigation is far less essential than in less favoured parts of the province, and except for the canals, it was comparatively little used. In low

lying tracts water was taken from the small streams and creeks by means of *tenda* or bamboo water-lift. Where the water had only to be raised a few feet, it was to be scooped up in a *sena*, a sort of basket made of split bamboo which is operated by two persons. So it can be well stated that irrigation, in the past was being made by means of *tenda*, *sena*, or *janta*. There are a number of rivers, big and small, in this district. Three major canals such as Churaman Canal, the Coast Canal and the High Level Canal were constructed with the aim of providing navigation and irrigation facilities. But these canals could not be used purposefully. The people were very reluctant to use canal water for irrigation purpose due to a superstition prevailing among them. In the old gazetteer of 1907 an interesting event has found place in this regard. It is mentioned, "the people generally were reluctant to resort to artificial irrigation, and as an instance of this feeling, mention may be made of the course of events in 1869 in Pargana Randhiyaorgara, which suffered severely from want of rain in that year. The river Salandi runs through the centre of this tract, and when the drought made itself felt and the people were praying for help, the Collector asked them why they did not use the river water as a means of irrigation. They only replied that it was not the custom; that the proprietors of lands on the river banks would object to channels being cut through their lands for the purpose of carrying water to fields further inland; that it would be very hard work; that it would not pay; and that river water was not so fertilizing as that which came "from heaven". At all events, the river water was not used and the crops perished in consequence".\*

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In that gazetteer it has been mentioned that in 1895-96 the irrigated area was only 10,105 acres (4,089.36 hectares); it increased to 29,248 acres (11,836.28 hectares) in 1898-99; in the 5 years ending in 1904-05 the average area irrigated was 37,000 acres (15,256.69 hectares); and in 1905-06 water was supplied to 42,784 acres (17,314.12 hectares); of which 42,000 acres (16,996.85 hectares) were under rice.

However, the situation and scope of irrigation has been changed considerably. Tanks, rivers, Nalas and other water reservoirs are being utilised for irrigation. Water pumps, run by diesel engines are also in vogue. People are becoming more and more conscious about this. From 1980 onwards emphasis has been given for water harvesting structures, maintaining the efficiency of ground water and cross-bunding of creeks together with modernisation of irrigation system at Salandi. The culturable land of the district is 4,570 square

\* L. S. S. O' Malley, Bengal District Gazetteer, Balasore, Canal and Embankments Chapter.

kilometres. The irrigated area under flow irrigation in this district up to end of 1985-86 is about 20.40 per cent of the culturable area. The major irrigation projects operating in the district are discussed below.

### **Major Irrigation Projects**

#### **Baitarani System High Level Canal Range III**

The High Level Canal Range III was a part of the ambitious canal project intended to connect Cuttack with Calcutta by means of a 368 km. long navigable canal. This scheme was done in three ranges. The High Level Canal Range I from Birupa to Brahmani, Range II from Kharasuan to Baitarani in the district of Cuttack and then Range III from Baitarani at Akhuapada to Salandi near Bhadrak in Baleshwar district. Out of the three ranges, range I and range II are defunct. The High Level Canal Range III, which is 30.57 km. (19 miles) long was completed in the year 1891. This navigable-cum-irrigation canal derives its supply of water from river Baitarani at Akhuapada. After opening of the railway communication in 1905 and better communication facilities in National High Ways, the navigational aspect of the canal has declined and the lock gate at Bhadrak is defunct.

There are seven distributaries with a total length of 109.03 km. (67 $\frac{3}{4}$  miles) taking off from this main canal to irrigate an area of 19,673 hectares of land in Baleshwar district.

#### **Salandi Irrigation Project Left and Dasamauja System**

The Salandi irrigation project is located in Kendujhar district and it irrigates partly in the Baleshwar district. The dam across river Salandi intercepting a catchment of 673 sq. km. has been constructed near village Hadgarh in Kendujhar district to impound water and release the same for irrigation purpose. The Salandi left main canal which is 7 kilometres long, has branches for 36.50 km. and there are 7 distributaries, 26 minors and 79 sub-minors command in over an area of 37,520 hectares in Bhadrak subdivision of the district. On the down stream of river Salandi below Bhadrak town there is a cross regulator at village Aharpada where the two canals namely Gopalia and Dasamauja have taken off to irrigate an area of 7,112 hectares in Bhadrak subdivision.

The project was started in the year 1961-62 and has been completed during the year 1981-82. The project was executed with World Bank assistance and the latest estimated cost of the project was Rs. 1,637.91 lakhs. This project is providing irrigation to an area of 44,632 hectares in 5 Community Development Blocks, namely, Bhadrak, Tihiri, Soro and Basudebpur of this district.



### **Canalisation of Anandapur Barrage Salandi Right Canal System**

Initially there was a proposal for construction of a barrage across river Baitarani at Anandapur in Kendujhar district to irrigate the area between Baitarani left and Salandi right. But subsequently in the year 1976 a committee of engineers after examining the capacity of the Salandi reservoir recommended that the Salandi right canal system with a culturable commandable area of 40,178 hectares can be irrigated by taking a canal on the right from Bidyadharpur barrage constructed across river Salandi. Accordingly, the canalisation scheme was started in the year 1976.

This is an ongoing project and the estimated cost was Rs. 1616.72 lakhs. Up to the end of 1985-86, 10.20 km. of right main canal, 72.88 km. of branch canals and 248.00 km. of distributaries, minors and sub-minors have been completed. The programme of work is to complete the project by 1988-89. The expenditure up to 1985-86 was 1,263.00 lakhs.

On completion, this project will irrigate 13,095 hectares in Kendujhar district and 27,083 hectares in Baleshwar district. Under this system, irrigation has been extended to 21,793 hectares of land in Baleshwar district up to 1985-86.

### **Chudamani Canal**

During 1825 to 1826 the first canal in Baleshwar district was constructed as a cut connecting Matai and Gamai rivers. It is known as Chudamani canal. This is also known as Rickets Canal named after the then Collector of the district. The primary purpose of this canal was transportation of salt from the Arangs in the south to the then port Churaman, whence it was shipped by sloops to Calcutta. The canal is in low-lying areas of Basudebpur Block. To some extent it also serves as a drainage channel. At present, the canal is silted up and is defunct. A scheme for renovating this canal for improvement of the drainage and to promote Rabi cultivation is now under investigation.

### **The Coast Canal**

In the year 1880 construction of Coast Canal was undertaken to establish a trade route from Chandbali to Calcutta through the river Matai. The work was taken up to provide employment opportunity against the famine. The canal was opened during 1885-87. The length of canal in Balashwar district is 133.60 kilometres. It is divided into four ranges with 8 locks. With the opening of railway from 1905 the navigation aspect of the canal started declining. In course of time out of 8 locks 6 locks have become defunct and only two at Bhogari and Jamkunda are functioning.

In the year 1984 the Government decided to improve the first range and a portion of 4th range (Charbatia to Dhamra road) so as to provide irrigation to 2,508 hectares of Kharif and 1,238 hectares of Rabi. The estimated cost of both the schemes was 139.75 lakhs. This is an ongoing scheme and is likely to be completed by 1987-88. The first range shall draw sweet water from river Subarnarekha whereas the 4th range shall draw its water supply from river Matei upto the end of February and extend irrigation facilities by lift arrangements.

### **Subarnarekha Irrigation Projects**

This is an inter-state multi-purpose project for Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal to share the irrigation and flood control benefits. The proposal is to construct Chandil dam, Ichha dam, Kharkei barrage and Galudihi barrage in the state of Bihar and irrigate 1,60,000 hectares in Bihar, 94,000 hectares in Baleshwar and Mayurbhanj districts of Orissa and 5,000 hectares in West Bengal. The total cost of the project was Rs. 1,216.78 crores. Out of this scheme, in Phase-I, Chandil dam, Ichha dam and Galudihi barrage with the right link canal up to Orissa border has been taken up under World Bank assistance and the total estimated cost was Rs. 163.73 crores. The canal system of Orissa alongwith the improvement of Haladia reservoir and the new reservoir Jambira and Baura shall be taken up in Phase-II with an estimated cost of Rs. 263.90 crores. Distribution system of the Subarnarekha Irrigation Project through the Baisinga branch canal shall irrigate an area of 4,740 hectares in Baleshwar district.

### **Sunei Medium Irrigation Project**

It is a reservoir scheme across a small river Sunei near village Salchua in the district of Mayurbhanj. This is an ongoing project being executed through World Bank assistance. The estimated cost of the project was Rs. 27.00 crores and the project is to be completed during 1988-89. After completion, this project will irrigate a total area of 10,000 hectares in Mayurbhanj and Baleshwar districts. The Berham-pur distributary of the canal system shall supply water to 2100 hectares of land in Nilagiri subdivision of Baleshwar district.

### **Minor Irrigation**

Tanks and reservoirs serve as the main source of minor irrigation. There are 55 numbers of small diversion weirs and reservoirs irrigating 6,971 hectares in the district. Out of these, 30 are completed projects, 30 partly derelict, 4 completely derelict and one project is under construction in Nilagiri subdivision.

### **Lift Irrigation**

The district comes under two distinct geological formations, namely, unconsolidated sediments and consolidated archaens. The former covers major river basins and coastal alluvial tracts which constitute 86 per cent of the gross area of the district in 19 C.D. Blocks. In this tract granular aquifers occurring in multiple layers alternating with clay beds provide vast scope for installation of all types of irrigation wells. But the behaviour of coastal saline tract is a little different. Due to the intrusion of saline water top in this region, aquifers are contaminated with salinity over a large area and hence, it is not suitable for installation of irrigation wells.

Basins of river Salandi provide good scope for integrated development of surface water and ground water. As the Nilagiri-I, Nilagiri-II and Khaira C.D. Block areas represent archaean type of rocks, those have comparatively limited scope for ground water development.

Rivers Subarnarekha, Jambira, Burhabalanga, Kansbans, Salandi, Baitarani, etc., serve as the main drainage system for the district and provide large scope for installation of river-lift projects. By the end of March 1986, 244 numbers of river-lift projects exist along the banks of different rivers in the district which irrigate 5030 lakh hectares in the district.

Irrigation wells have been installed in almost all the C.D. Blocks of the district. Altogether 6,725 dug wells, 782 dug wells with pump sets, 1794 deep tube wells and 234 numbers of river-lift projects have been installed by the Orissa Lift Irrigation Corporation and the Community Development and Rural Reconstruction Department in this district. These sources irrigate 7.46 lakh hectares. Programme has been chalked out to install further 650 tube wells during the Seventh Five Year Plan period to provide irrigation facilities for 13,000 hectares in the district.

### **soil**

Systematic soil survey has not been done so far in this district. The soil classification given below is based on the visual impression and inferences drawn from the types of vegetation. Accordingly, the soils of the district can be divided into following classes :

#### **Alluvial Soil**

It is formed out of salt deposited by flood water. The soil is mostly marked on the river sides of Subarnarekha, Burhabalanga, Salandi, Kansbans, Jalaka and Baitarani. Clay and organic matters are the main contents of this type of soil. As it is extremely fertile, crops like paddy, sugar-cane, jute, tobacco, pulses, vegetables and coriander are grown on this soil.

### **Red Loam**

This type of soil is mainly concentrated in west Baleshwar, especially in Nilagiri subdivision. The rapid flow of rain water that takes place in the undulating land causes soil drift. The wash-out contributes considerably to loss of fertility. It is reddish and suitable for growing fruits. The soil deposited in the slopes by process of erosion is rich with alluvium and is of medium fertility. It is capable of growing crops like paddy, vegetables, pulses, groundnut, maize, sesamum, mustard, arrow-root and turmeric.

### **Sandy and Sandy loam**

The sandy soil is found mainly in the coastal belt. The strip of land containing the soil gradually broadens and stretches towards the north. Cashewnut, casuarina and palmyra grow well in this soil. The sandy loam also confined to the coastal belt are suitable for the growth of cocoanut, arecanut, groundnut and vegetables.

### **Black Soil**

This type of soil is calcareous by nature, and cracks when becomes dried. During rains, it gets water-logged. It occurs more or less in the western part of the district. Paddy is the main crop grown in this soil. With the extension of irrigation facilities crops like pulses, summer paddy, cotton, groundnut and chillies are also grown.

### **Saline Soil**

It occurs mostly in the low-lying areas near the sea. This soil contains high percentage of salt and is, therefore, unsuitable for cultivation. Only when salinity is washed out by floods, some coarse varieties of paddy are grown.

According to local terms these soils may be divided into four classes in the light of their composition, viz., Matal or clay lands, (ii) Dorasa or loamy soils, (iii) Balia or sandy lands and (iv) Patu or alluvial soils.

### **CLASSIFICATION OF LAND**

The arable land in the plains consists of alluvium in which sand and clay are intermixed in varying proportions; but the cultivators recognise a large number of different classes of soil, the names of which vary according to their situation, elevation and composition. In an ordinary village, the lands fall primarily under three main divisions according to their situation, viz., (i) the low

lands retaining rain water, and hence called *jala* or wetlands; on which winter rice is grown. These lands predominate in the district and comprise the greater part of the whole cultivated area (ii) The high lands round the village homesteads, which being enriched by manure and household refuse, have a blackish colour and therefore called *kala*. Vegetables, cotton, jute and other valuable crops are grown on such lands. The homestead land is also known by the generic name of Gharabari or *kala* and the land lying between this and the fields is called Gantali and (iii) The river-side lands (Pala) being periodically fertilised by deposits of silt are suitable for growing tobacco, cotton, mustard and other Rabi crops.

In the Bhadrak Agriculture District *att* land, i.e., unbounded high land is confined to Khaira C. D. Block area only. The Berna or medium land covers 88,628 hectares. Generally paddy is grown in this type of land during Kharif season. The low land area known as Bahal is of 1,24,438 hectares where paddy is grown during Kharif season followed by pulses in Rabi.

Arable lands are also classified according to their elevation, the low-lying lands being called *gahira* and the high land *danga*. High lands which are not enriched by silt and cannot retain water are contemptuously referred to as waste land (Thenga or Thengi). A further classification under which all lands fall is that of quality. The first class (*caul*) includes all soils which retain moisture up to the time when the ear is ripe; and alluvial and homestead lands also rank in this class on account of their special fertility. The second class (*doem*) includes land at medium level which retain moisture up to September. Inferior and sandy soils rank under the third class or *soem*.

## CROPS

Balashwar mainly being an agricultural district is suitable for various crops. Cereals, pulses, oil-seeds, millets, fibre crops, various cash crops, spices and fruits are grown in this district. Of these, cereals are most important.

### Cereals

#### (i) Paddy

Among cereals, paddy is the predominant crop. Out of the gross cropped area of 6,28,334 hectares in the year 1984-85, it alone covered an area of 4,19,269 hectares producing 3,79,930 tonnes of rice. The yield rate of rice per hectare in 1983-84 was 9.81 quintals and in 1984-85 it was 9.18 quintals. In the next year, i.e.,

1985-86 it went up to 9.32 quintals. So it seems that the yield rate of paddy has been increasing gradually due to modern day-to-day facilities available in the field of agriculture. The varieties of paddy cultivated in the district fall under three main categories (i) Biali or autumn rice; it is sown in May and reaped in August/September, (ii) Sarad or winter rice; it is sown in May and June and harvested during October to January and (iii) Dalua or summer paddy. It is sown in December/January after the cessation of floods and harvested in March/April.

Of all the varieties, Sarad or winter rice covered 96 per cent, autumn rice one per cent and summer rice a little over two per cent of the total area under paddy cultivation. In this district paddy is sown broadcast on high lands. In low lands seedlings are transplanted. There is a saying in Oriya "*Rua dhana thua*" (ରୁଆ ଧାନ ଥୁଆ). It means, transplantation usually brings a better yield, but failure of rain immediately following the operation may lead to total failure of the crop. Cultivator, therefore, in order to avoid the risk, takes to broadcasting method. O'Malley writes in the Balasore Gazetteer (1907), "Nearly all the sarad rice is broadcast, transplantation being an unpopular system of cultivation, as it involves more labour and the transplanted seedlings are very delicate for the first month and liable to injury by flood and still more by drought. It is however admitted that, when successful, transplantation gives a larger yield, and it is resorted to for fields, especially for those under irrigation, which grow a sarad crop after *bjali*, to avoid the risk of early floods and to replace the loss of that broadcast crop if it is destroyed before the end of July."

However, in 1984-85 of the total area under paddy, autumn paddy covered 9,000 hectares and winter paddy covered 3,86,000 hectares. The total Kharif paddy area comes to 3,95,000 hectares, out of which high yielding varieties covered 95,762 hectares and normal varieties covered 2,99,238 hectares. Summer paddy covered an area of 18,650 hectares out of which 16,550 hectares were under high yielding varieties and 2,100 hectares under normal variety.

## (ii) Wheat

Wheat is a crop of not much importance in the district. During 1907, it was grown on 100 acres (40.46 hectares) only. Gradually the cultivation of this crop is increasing. In the year 1984-85, high yielding varieties of wheat was grown on 4,016 hectares and 7,766 tonnes were produced with an average rate of 19.34 quintals per hectare.

## **Millets**

Millets are grown to a small extent in this district. Ragi, maize, jowar and Bajra are the main crops which are included in this category. In the year 1984-85, a total area of 1,603 hectares was under cultivation of different millets and 1,585 tonnes were produced.

### **(i) Maize**

Of the millets grown in this district, maize occupies the first position. Generally it is sown in the month of July and the cobs are plucked in September. During 1984-85, a total area of 1,068 hectares was under maize cultivation in Kharif and 937 tonnes were produced with an average of 8.77 quintals per hectare. In Rabi, a total area of 377 hectares was under cultivation of maize producing 488 quintals with an average rate of 12.94 quintals per acre.

### **(ii) Jowar**

In 1984-85 there were 52 hectares under jowar cultivation and 42 tonnes were produced with an average of 8.2 quintals per hectare.

### **(iii) Other millets**

In 1984-85, there were 106 hectares under the cultivation of other millets producing 52 tonnes with an average of 5.00 quintals per hectare.

## **Pulses**

Mung, Biri, Kulthi, gram, cowpea and fieldpea are the main pulses grown in this district. In 1984-85, a total area of 74,958 hectares was under cultivation of different pulses and 38,931 tonnes were produced with an average production rate of 5.19 quintals per hectare.

### **(i) Mung**

Next to paddy Mung occupies the priority of position. It is sown broadcast in August and September and reaped in December and January. In the Balasore District Gazetteer of 1907 it has been mentioned, "mung is a pulse largely consumed by poorer classes." But the statement seems no longer tenable because its consumption has become essential for both rich and poor. In the year 1984-85, Mung was sown in Kharif season over an area of 1,030 hectares and the production was 432 tonnes with an average yield rate of 4.19 quintals per hectare whereas in Rabi season it was sown in 37,237 hectares and the production was 19,466 tonnes with an average yield rate of 5.23 quintals per hectare.

**(ii) Biri**

This crop is sown broadcast during rains. Generally it is grown after *bia*/rice, mostly in inundated areas where the land is rich enough. In 1984-85, the area under Biri cultivation in Rabi season was 25,899 hectares and 13,666 tonnes were produced with an average yield rate of 5.28 quintals per hectare.

**(iii) Kulthi**

Kulthi is one of the cheap rabi crops. It is sown in November and cut in February. This pulse is commonly taken in the form of Dal by the people belonging to poorer classes and is also used as cattle feed. In 1984-85, Kulthi was grown over an area of 2,777 hectares and with an average yield of 5.26 quintals per hectare 1,462 tonnes were produced.

**Oil-seeds**

Mustard, til, ground-nut and castor are the principal oil-seeds cultivated in Kharif and Rabi seasons in the district. In 1984-85, oil-seeds cultivation covered an area of 34,154 hectares and 28,792 tonnes were produced with an average yield rate of 8.43 quintals per hectare.

**(i) Ground-nut**

Of all oil-seeds, ground-nut covered the largest area being grown on 1,483 hectares in Kharif season and 9,021 hectares in Rabi season. With an average yield rate of 12.5 quintals per hectare in Kharif and 16.67 quintals per hectare in Rabi, the total production was 1,787 tonnes in Kharif and 15,040 tonnes in Rabi season.

**(ii) Mustard**

During the year 1984-85, cultivation of mustard covered an area of 8,638 hectares, being the second predominant oil-seed. With an average yield rate of 5.19 quintals per hectare the total production was 4,482 tonnes.

**(iii) Til**

Cultivation of til occupied the third position in 1984-85 in preference. During the year 1984-85 it was grown over an area of 1,408 hectares in Kharif and 8,040 hectares in Rabi season with an average yield rate of 5.04 quintals per hectare in Kharif and 5.00 quintals per hectare in Rabi season, the total production being 710 tonnes in Kharif and 4,019 tonnes in Rabi season.



**(iv) Castor**

This crop covered an area of 411 hectares in Kharif and 5,012 hectares in Rabi season in 1984-85 and with an average yield-rate of 4.32 quintals per hectare in Kharif and 4.97 quintals in Rabi season, the total production was 177 tonnes in Kharif and 249.2 tonnes in Rabi season.

**Fibre Crops**

Among fibre crops jute, mesta, sunhemp and cotton are cultivated in this district. During 1984-85, these crops covered an area of 9,212 hectares.

**(i) Jute**

It is the chief fibre crop of the district which is grown on homestead lands having facilities of irrigation or rich alluvial soil by the river side. During 1897 the area under this crop was only 140 acres. Its cultivation is gradually expanding. In 1984-85 this crop was grown over an area of 6,500 hectares and 51,000 tonnes were produced with an average yield of 7.85 quintals per hectare.

**(ii) Sunhemp**

Next to jute, sunhemp cultivation occupies the second position. During 1984-85 it was grown on 969 hectares and the total yield was 6,395 bales with an average yield of 6.6 bales per hectare.

**(iii) Mesta**

Mesta cultivation covered an area of 350 hectares in 1984-85 and the total output was 1700 bales with an average yield of 4.86 bales per hectare.

**(iv) Cotton**

During the year 1984-85, cotton cultivation covered an area of 20 hectares and 20 bales were produced with an average yield rate of one bale per hectare.

**Sugarcane**

Sugarcane is an important cash crop. It covered above 2,000 acres in 1907. The plant requires a loamy soil and is grown generally on lands near the village or within easy reach of canal irrigation, or on the edges of natural water courses, where the land is out of the range of canal water. This crop requires incessant attention and involves a large expenditure of time,

labour and money. The field has to be ploughed some twenty times and richly manured before the cuttings are planted in January or February. Then constant irrigation is necessary, and the soil has to be loosened and oil-cakes are applied to the roots. These processes are repeated at intervals, the land being irrigated so as to keep it continually moist and after the fourth application of oil-cake in May or June, land is weeded and loosened. The stems are then wrapped in sugarcane leaves and tied up. After another weeding in August the leaves are bound together and the plants are tied together tightly to give them greater power to resist the storms. Finally, in December the canes are cut and the juice is extracted through bullock-driven crushers. During the year 1984-85 there were 1327 hectares under this crop and with an average yield of 65.47 quintals per hectare a total amount of 8,688 tonnes were produced.

### **Betel (Pan)**

The cultivation of Pan (betel), another important cash crop is not so extensive. The introduction of betel in this district bears a story behind it. According to the Balasore Gazetteer of 1907 written by O'Malley, "it was introduced by some men of Bauri caste who came from Bengal and settled down in Balasore and it is still grown for the most part by men of this caste". Pan was previously grown in Bhograi, Dhamnagar, Bahanaga, Similia, Bhandaripokhari and Bhadrak areas. But now the cultivation is confined mostly to Bhograi area in occasional patches. The gardens are carefully fenced and covered with a thatched roof constructed with a kind of reed locally available. The vines are planted in rows supported by props and are grown under shade. The cultivation requires constant and careful supervision. Irrigation is done by pot-watering. With a good crop, its cultivation proves amply rewarding.

### **Vegetables**

Different types of vegetables are grown in Kharif and Rabi seasons in this district. Among the main vegetables cultivated during Kharif season brinjal, lady's finger, pumpkin, ridged gourd, cucumber, chillies, Potal, bitter gourd, cowpea and potato may be mentioned. In the Rabi season brinjal, cabbage, cauliflower, Knolkhol, Potal, bottle gourd potato, sweet potato, bean, pumpkin, cucumber, cowpea, tomato, lady's finger, chillies and other vegetables are grown. In 1984-85 there were 62,654 hectares of land under cultivation of different vegetables and the production was to the tune of 6,68,550 tonnes. Cultivation of potato was negligible since 1983-84. Only 228 hectares of land covered for the cultivation of potato in that year. But in the year 1984-85 it covered an area of 3,690 hectares and with an average yield of 70.0 quintals per hectare

the production amounted to 25,830 tonnes. Sweet potato was grown over an area of 1,116 hectares during this year and the production was 11,510 tonnes with an average yield of 103.14 quintals per hectare.

### **Condiments and Spices**

Chilli, coriander, garlic, ginger, onion and turmeric are the main condiments and spices grown in this district. Among them chilli is the most important. This crop covered an area of 7,689 hectares followed by onion 3,570 hectares, garlic 1,646 hectares, turmeric 1,279 hectares, coriander 2,131 hectares, and ginger 516 hectares during the year 1984-85.

### **Tobacco**

Tobacco was covered on a very small area during the year 1984-85 which was to the extent of 25 hectares only. The production was 11 tonnes with an average yield of 4.4 quintals per hectare.

### **Fruits**

The most popular fruit is the plantain, which is grown in almost every part of the district. It is used as a fruit and also used in curries. The fruit is grown mostly in backyards and tank-banks. A good variety called *Patakapura* is popular amongst cultivators. In 1982-83, this fruit was grown over an area of 4,020 hectares. Other fruits which are generally cultivated in this district are mango, guava, kazilime, litchi, sopata, papaya, jack-fruit and pineapple. During 1984-85, there were 3,277 hectares under mango, 568 hectares under papaya and 1100 hectares under different fruits. Plantation of coconut have been taken in a large scale. A large number of coconut plants have been grown in Bhograi, Baliapal, Basta, Jaleshwar, Sadar, Remuna and Bahanaga C. D. Blocks. As the importance of coconut is growing high at present attention is being given for its cultivation. In 1984-85, 4540 hectares were put under coconut cultivation and 19,700 coconuts were produced. Among other fruits the names of Bel, jack-fruit, tamarind and pineapple may be mentioned.

### **IMPROVEMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND STATE ASSISTANCE**

As stated earlier the general condition of the farmers is poor. Government have implemented many programmes for improvement of agriculture through introduction of scientific agricultural practices. Training and visit system has been introduced through World Bank assistance. Under this system Village Agricultural Workers (V.A.W.) have been appointed to impart necessary technical guidance to the farmers. There are also Agricultural Extension Officers to supervise

the work of V. A. Ws. They also participate in group meetings. To motivate the farmers for modern method of farming, crop demonstrations and trials are being conducted in different seasons. Multiple cropping pattern demonstrations are also being conducted in different types of land, both irrigated and rain-fed, to educate the farmers that three or more crops can be grown in irrigated lands and two crops can be successfully taken up in rain-fed lands. Introduction of new high yielding varieties have also been taken up. Improved varieties of paddy, wheat, Mung, Biri, Arhar, ground-nut, cotton, til, mustard, castor, etc., have also been evolved and introduced. In the Nilagiri C. D. Block, Integrated Tribal Development Agency Scheme is being implemented since 1975-76. Different plant protection measures are in operation in this district. Sprayers and dusters are being used by the farmers for applying insecticides. The Minikit Programme containing improved variety seed of oil-seeds, millets and pulses are supplied to the farmers by the District Rural Development Agency. In the Special Rice Production Programme 40,000 numbers of paddy minikit were distributed during the year 1986-87. The traditional wooden plough has been replaced by iron plough in many places. Improved agricultural implements are being supplied at subsidised rates to the poor farmers. Use of tractors and pumps are on the increase.

The scheme of advancing Taccavi loan to the cultivators for improvement of land and for purchase of seed or cattle or such other purposes was introduced in the state, under the provisions of "Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883" and the "Agriculturist Loans Act, 1884". The above scheme was subsequently substituted by Co-operative and Bank loans. With a view to avoiding duplication, Government ultimately decided to stop disbursement of Taccavi loan altogether since 1st April 1980 and no such loan is being sanctioned thereafter. During the year 1985-86, 516.13 lakh rupees have been distributed through the co-operative and commercial banks among the cultivators in Kharif and Rabi seasons.

#### AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS AND SHOWS

Every year crop competitions on different crops are being organised to create interest among the cultivators for growing up different crops. Besides, agricultural exhibitions are also being organised every year in this district and prizes are awarded to successful farmers. In addition, farmers training programmes are now being conducted by the Agriculture department to educate the cultivators in advanced methods of scientific cultivation with improved seeds, implements and fertilisers.

### AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

Country-made age-old agricultural implements are in use throughout the district. Mechanical cultivation is practically non-existent. On the method of cultivation the Balasore Gazetteer of 1907 says, "the Oriya is a very conservative cultivator and has a apathetic indifference to agricultural improvements. Various experiments have been made from time to time at the instance of Government with new crops, selected seed and modern implements and an experimental farm has been started, but these experiments have had little effect on cultivation generally. The people still adhere to their old fashioned ploughs, which turn of scarcely six inches of earth; and nothing shows their conservatism more clearly than their failure to adopt the improved sugarcane mills which have become popular almost everywhere else in Bengal. A few of the Bihua iron sugar-crushing are found round Bhadrak, but elsewhere the ryot keeps to the old wasteful wooden mill"\*.

"This want of progress is due to the fact that centuries of inherited experience has taught the cultivator to raise the best crop possible for the minimum of labour which he is willing to bestow, and he regards with disfavour any change involving an increase of labour. He can secure improved crops without increasing his exertions, by the use of improved seed and labour-saving appliances; but these he will not introduce. Such conservatism is due to the natural idleness and apathy of the Balasore peasant, whom one account describes as 'bigoted, wedded to custom, indolent and poor in the extreme'. His dislike of new methods is also largely due to the fatalistic spirit produced by the liability of the district to suffer from natural calamities".\*

This poor picture of a Baleshwar peasant has changed considerably through the changing time and circumstances and the cultivator now responds more favourably to the introduction of improved methods of cultivation.

But the indigenous methods are still prevailing. Ploughing, sowing and the allied operations are carried out by the country ploughs. Other implements in use are spade, *fouda*, sickle and leveller. These implements cost less and are simple in make. Attempts to replace the less efficient implements by improved ones have met with some success. Improved light iron ploughs have been introduced. Japanese wedder, hoes, special *kodalis* and paddy thresher are some of the modern implements in use. Tractors

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\* Source : L. S. S. O' Malley—Bengal District Gazetteers, Balasore, 1907, Chapter, V (Agriculture).

and bull-dozers are supplied by Government on hire for reclamation of fallow lands. Some cultivators have their own tractors and pumpsets also.

The number of agricultural implements in use in this district during the year 1977 is as follows\*.

	Number
Wooden ploughs	— 3,79,934
Iron ploughs	— 4,835
Sugarcane crushers (Bullock driven)	.. 320
Sugarcane crushers (power driven)	... 22
Carts (Bullock driven)	.. Not Available
Oil engines	... 39
Electric pumps and pumps for tube-wells	.. 8
Tractors	.. 6
Oil crushers (Ghani)	.. 148

#### ROTATION OF CROPS

Keeping in view the suitability of land, irrigation resources, restoration of soil fertility and socio-economic status of the farming community suitable cropping patterns are advocated for better utilisation of land, labour, water and capital.

Obviously in irrigated conditions three to four crop cropping pattern and in non-irrigated lands two or rarely three crop cropping pattern have been adopted. The farmers have been advised to grow short and medium duration high yielding varieties of paddy and other medium as well as light duty crops as second and third crops.

The cropping patterns adopted in Baleshwar Agriculture District in irrigated and non-irrigated conditions are given below:

#### Irrigated Conditions

- Uplands (i) Ground-nut-wheat or mustard-vegetables
- (ii) Early H. Y. paddy-mustard or wheat-pulses
- (iii) Mung or Biri or cowpea-wheat-til
- (iv) H. Y. paddy-potato-til or vegetables
- (v) Maize-mustard-pulses or vegetables

\* Source : Statistical Abstracts of Orissa, 1981.

- Medium lands..** (i) H. Y. paddy-mustard-pulses or chillis  
 (ii) H. Y. paddy-wheat-vegetables  
 (iii) H. Y. paddy-potato-til or pulses or vegetables  
 (iv) Jute-early medium, H. Y. paddy-wheat or potato pulses or vegetables  
 (v) Jute-paddy or wheat-groundnut or pulses
- Low lands ..** (i) Long duration H. Y. paddy-pulses or vegetables  
 (ii) Jute-paddy-pulses or til  
 (iii) Jute-H. Y. paddy

### **Non-Irrigated Conditions**

- Uplands ..** (i) Mung or Biri or cowpea-vegetables  
 (ii) Ragi-mustard or Mung  
 (iii) Maize or jowar-pulses (Kulthi)  
 (iv) Short duration paddy-mustard or pulses or cowpea or Biri  
 (v) Ground-nut and Arhar or cotton, Mung and Arhar or cotton, paddy or Arhar
- Medium lands ..** (i) H. Y. paddy-mustard-pulses  
 (ii) Jute-paddy-pulses  
 (iii) H. Y. paddy-pulses (field pea, lentil, Mung, Biri).  
 (iv) Short duration H. Y. paddy-groundnut, castor, til  
 (v) H. Y. paddy-wheat or chilli
- Low lands ..** (i) Jute-paddy-pulses  
 (ii) Paddy-pulses  
 (iii) Jute-vegetables

In Bhadrak Agricultural district, the following cropping pattern is adopted under irrigated and non-irrigated conditions:

- Irrigated conditions** (i) Paddy-pulses-vegetables  
 (ii) Jute-paddy-pulses  
 (iii) Jute-paddy-oilseeds (ground-nut)  
 (iv) Jute-paddy-vegetables  
 (v) Paddy-oilseeds-Pulses  
 (vi) Paddy-vegetable-pulses-oilseeds (til)  
 (vii) Paddy-wheat  
 (viii) Early paddy-pulses-wheat

- Non-Irrigated conditions
- (i) Paddy-fallow
  - (ii) Paddy-vegetables
  - (iii) Paddy-pulses (Piara)
  - (iv) Paddy-mustard

Of these, cropping patterns of paddy-pulses vegetable, jute-paddy-vegetables and paddy-oilseeds-pulses under irrigated conditions and paddy-pulses (Piara) and paddy-mustard in non-irrigated conditions are popularly followed by the cultivators. In improved method of cultivation early paddy-pulses-wheat and Ratna-T 9, Biri-vegetable cropping patterns are being followed.

From the above narration it is found that while multiple cropping pattern is adopted for irrigated lands double cropping pattern is advised for the lands in non-irrigated conditions.

#### SEEDS

The cultivators do not take proper care for preservation of seeds. Generally they keep the seeds in gunny bags after proper drying and cleaning. Those are stored with other grains meant for consumption. So there is every possibility of mixing with other seeds kept side by side. During recent years increased attention is being given for quality of seeds and seedlings to maintain quality of High Yielding Varieties. The cultivators are being advised to have quality seeds resort to improved method of cultivation and store the seeds in metal storage bins. Nucleus seeds are being supplied by the departmental farms, National Seeds Corporation, Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology and Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack.

Supply of different seeds to the district by the Directorate of Agriculture and Food Production, Orissa, during the year 1986-87 is given below:

Name of the seeds	Quantity supplied (in quintals) during 1986-87	
	Kharif	Rabi
(1)	(2)	(3)
Paddy	1,993	1,448
Wheat	..	1,073
Maize	105	..
Gram	..	5
Ground-nut	699	731
Mustard	..	23



(1)	(2)	(3)
Til	..	4
Mung	..	107
Biri	..	74
Dhanicha	100	...
Jute	43	...

#### MANURES AND FERTILISERS

Cow-dung is the most important manure. But lack of proper preparation makes it poor in manurial constituents. A great deal of cow-dung is lost by its conversion into fuel cakes. The only other manure in common use consists of house-hold refuses. These manures are often spread on the rice lands at the time of the first ploughing. Oilcake is occasionally used as a top dressing for valuable crops like sugarcane, betel and vegetables. Silt of old tanks are also used as manures in the fields. In the urban areas night soil manuring has been introduced. The street refuses and night soil are turned into compost and supplied to the cultivators at a cheaper rate. In the past, a strong prejudice existed against the use of night soil and bone-meal. Use of chemical fertilisers was almost unknown. But the picture has now changed a great deal. The cultivators have resorted to use of different chemical fertilisers. Results of application of such fertilisers are also demonstrated in the C.D. Block areas. Green manures, prepared out of sunhemp, Dhanicha and other leafy as well as succulent plants are being used. Steps have been taken for large scale production of compost and manures. Training is being imparted to cultivators regarding improved method of compost production.

During the year 1986-87 the production of compost and green manuring is as follows:

Name of the Agriculture District	Compost production (in tonnes)	Green manuring in Kharif (in hectares)
(1)	(2)	(3)
Baleshwar Agriculture District	3,90,470	10,481

Among the chemical fertilisers generally nitrogenous, phosphatic and potassic fertilisers are in use. The quantity of various chemical fertilisers consumed during last five years ending in 1986-87 in the district is given in the following table. The use of fertiliser in the field of agriculture shows a gradual increase in the district. During 1986-87 the consumption of fertilisers per hectare of gross cropped area in the state as a whole was 16.4 kg. whereas the consumption of the district average was 23.6 kg., which was more than the state average.

Year	Nitrogenous (in tonnes)	Phosphetic (in tonnes)	Potassic (in tonnes)	Fertiliser consumption per hectare of gross cropped area
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1982-83	4092	1328	922	..
1983-84	54163	17923	9911	..
1984-85	4932	1861	1951	15.43
1985-86	6209	2242	1427	25.43
1986-87	9046	3649	2985	23.06

### Crop Diseases

The crops are subject to attack of various pests and diseases. Pests and diseases cause a great problem resulting in loss of production. Common pest and diseases found in this district are given below:

Name of Crop	Pests	Diseases
(1)	(2)	(3)
1. Paddy	Stemborer, jasids, swarming cater pillar, case worms, leaf rollers, gundhibug, cut worms, brown plant, hopper, etc.	Blast, brown leaf spot, bacterial leaf, blight sheath flight, stemrol, etc.
2. Jute	Jute semilooper, indigo cater pillars, mites, apions, etc.	Stemrot, rootrot and wilf

Name of Crop (1)	Pests (2)	Diseases (3)
3. Groundnut	Hairy caterpillars, appide, leaf miners, termiters, white grubs	Tika disease and thrips, wilf, collar rot
4. Sugar cane	Termites, root borers, early shoot borer, topshoot borer, red spidermites	Redrot, smut
5. Jowar	Shoot fly, stem borer, ear head bug	Leaf spot
6. Wheat	Termites, pink borer	Black rust, hoosesmit, henynthosposum, leaf spot, allmaria, blast, leaf blight
7. Maize	Termites, hairy caterpillars, stemborer, grass hopper, cutworm	Leaf blight, rust
8. Mustard	Mustard sowfly, aphids	—
9. Cotton	Sooted bollworm, pink bollworm, leaf roller, jassid, aphid, red cotton bug	Angular leaf shot, anthracnose
10. Potato	Termites, white grubs, cutworm, epilachna beetle, jassid	Early blight, late blight, potato seab
11. Mung, Biri and cowpea	Leaf eating caterpillar, pulse beetle	Powdery mildew, rust
12. Arhar	Hairy caterpillars, jassids, cutworm, pad borers	—
13. Gram	Leaf eating caterpillars, pad borer	rust
14. Brinjal	Shoot and fruit borer, epilachna beetle	Wilt, root rot
15. Banana	Banana stem borer	Banana will, bunchy top

Name of Crop (1)	Pests (2)	Diseases (3)
16. Citrus fruits	Citrus butterfly, cottory cushinoscale, citrus psylla	Citrus canker, foot not gummosis
17. Mango	Mango hopper, mango fruitfly, jassids	Shooty mould, powdery mildew, anthracnose
18. Coconut	Rhinoceros buta, red palm weevil, black headed caterpillars	Root wilf, leaf blight
19. Guava	Mango mealybug, fruitfly	Zinc deficiency
20. Litchi	Mite, litchi fruit stones	Leaf spot

#### PLANT PROTECTION

Generally the cultivators seldom take plant protection measures in their crops. In the past, use of *mantras* and fixing up sacred sticks were the traditional methods adopted to fight insects like rice bugs (Mahua) and thrips (Dhauri). But that practice now is no more prevalent. These are at present being replaced by spraying and dusting of gammexane, D. D. T. and other insecticides and pesticides. Scientific plant protection measures are gaining popularity because of their effective action and quick results. The cultivators are being advised for summer ploughing, seed and seedling treatment, spraying of pesticides in right time and right doses and growing disease resistant varieties of crops. Pest and disease surveillance work is being done by the field staff. Cultivators are also being given technical advice. Insecticides and fungicides are supplied to cultivators through C. D. Block and Grama Panchayat agencies. There is provision of free spraying of pesticides in epidemic areas, declared by the Collector. Cultivators are being supplied with sprayers and other equipments at subsidised rates. Some farmers have their own equipment also.

#### AGRICULTURAL FARMS

There were two seed farms in the district located at Balia and Bhadrak till 1959-60 when four new seed farms were established at Agarpara, Bahalda, Dhamnagar and Motto. In the meantime another farm has been established at Sergarh raising the total number of farms in the district to seven.

These farms are primarily meant for production of foundation paddy seeds and some flood resistant varieties for supply to cultivators.

### **Agarpara Farm**

Situated at a distance of 12 miles (19.308 km.) from Bhadrak, this seed farm was established in 1959 over an area of 18.324 hectares. Of this the cultivable area is 15.532 hectares. The farm is mainly meant for multiplication of paddy seed. Some other crops like ground-nut, maize, jute and vegetables are also grown here in Kharif season. During Rabi season, wheat, potato, pulses are also grown.

### **Bahalda Farm**

This seed farm is located at a distance of 8 km., from Basta railway station and 32 kilometres from Baleshwar. The total area of the farm is 17.033 hectares, of which 14.585 hectares are cultivable. Besides paddy, which is the main crop, other crops like jute, maize, ground-nut, wheat and vegetables are also grown on a limited scale. Seed multiplication and demonstration of improved cultivation constitute the two important functions of the farm.

### **Bhadrak Farm**

Started in 1942, the farm is located on the Bhadrak-Chandbali road, about five kilometres from Bhadrak railway station. The farm stands over an area of 6.766 hectares of which 5.932 hectares are cultivable. Multiplication mainly of paddy seeds is carried out in the farm. Jute, maize, wheat, groundnut and vegetables are other crops which are grown here on a small scale.

### **Dhamnagar Seed Farm**

Situated on the Bhadrak-Dhamnagar road, at a distance of about 19 kilometres from Bhadrak, this farm was started in 1959. It extends over an area of 16.710 hectares of which 14.281 hectares are cultivable. The farm is meant for multiplication of paddy seeds and also for demonstration of improved method of cultivation.

### **Motto Farm**

The farm is located on the Bhadrak-Chandbali road, about 42 kilometres away from Bhadrak railway station. It covers an area of 17.632 hectares of which 15.224 hectares are cultivable. Usually flood and saline resistant varieties are tried in the farm. Other crops grown are *dalua* paddy, wheat and vegetables.

Seed multiplication is carried out in the farm. Besides, improved method of cultivation, like green-manuring, application of chemical fertilisers and other improved practices are also demonstrated here. This farm was handed over to the Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology and now functioning as Regional Research Station (Saline) from 1982.

### **Balia Farm**

This farm was established in the year 1916 over an area of 16.240 hectares. Of this, 13.492 hectares are cultivable.

### **Sergar Farm**

This farm is located near Sergarh over an area of 18.967 hectares. Of this, the cultivable area is 14,009 hectares. The seed multiplication work is being taken up.

### **RESEARCH STATIONS**

Under the World Bank assistance the following Research Stations have been established from 1980-81 under National Agriculture Extension Programme by O. U. A. T. as supporting activities for agricultural extension.

- (i) Regional Research Station, Ranital
- (ii) Saline Research Sub-station, Motto
- (iii) Adaptive Research Station, Balia.

### **HORTICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

The district of Balashwar, being situated on the coastal belt of the state is suitable for cultivation of different fruits like banana, coconut, lime, Sapota, guava, etc., For the Development of horticultural activities there are eight nurseries located at different places of the district. An account of these nurseries is given below :

Situated over an area of 16.80 acres (6.79 hectares) the Fruit Nursery, Balia, produced 5500 numbers of seedlings and 8,600 numbers of grafts during the three years ending 1986 of which 5,200 seedlings and 7,500 grafts have been sold to different cultivators.

The Transit Nursery at Nilagiri produced 1,500 numbers of seedlings and 450 numbers of grafts during three years ending 1986 and of these 1,200 seedlings and 320 grafts were sold. This nursery has an area of one acre (0.404687 hectare).

The Transit Nursery at Bhadrak, having an area of one acre (0.404687 hectare) produced 500 seedlings and 300 grafts during the above period of which 500 and 200 numbers respectively were sold to different interested cultivators.

The Baleshwar Transit Nursery situated over a tiny area of 0.25 acre (0.10 hectare), had produced 2,800 seedlings and 200 grafts during the above mentioned period of which 1,800 seedlings and all the grafts were sold.

The coconut nursery at Balia having an area of five acres (2.02 hectares) of land produced 28,878 number of seedlings in the above mentioned period of which 25,500 were sold to different cultivators.

Having an area of one acre (0.404687 hectare) of land the coconut nursery at Barapada had produced 7,920 seedlings during the same period of which 7,820 numbers were sold.

The Transit Nursery at Soro with an area of 0.50 acre (0.2023 hectare) of land was established in 1982-83 and production from this nursery was yet to come out.

The coconut nursery at Ranital having an area of one acre (0.404687 hectare) of land was established in 1981-82 in which 15,000 seedlings were produced.

#### SOIL TESTING

Soil testing is an efficient tool to evaluate the nutrient status of different soils. The data derived therefrom are useful in recommending economic and effective fertiliser schedule for deriving maximum benefit out of fertiliser application. For this a Soil Testing Laboratory was established at Baleshwar in 1966-67. This laboratory, consisting of one Soil Chemist and 25 staff has been shifted to Balia since 1971.

#### NATURAL CALAMITIES

Both floods and droughts frequently occur in the district. The former result from the sudden rising of the rivers, which have their source in the hilly region to the west. During summer they are nearly dry and their beds consist of vast stretches of sand, stripped by long reaches of land-locked water, through which small streams meander from bank to bank. But in the rainy season, and especially after a depression in the Bay of Bengal followed by heavy shower, they present an extraordinary contrast. They rise to a great height in a few hours, rush down with extreme violence and cause floods, which are frequently of short

duration, but quite unmanageable while they last. These rivers drain a large area, and so they bring down an enormous volume of water which the lower channels are unable to discharge, and which spreads over the country far and wide except where it is checked by embankments.

Droughts are due to the deficiency of the rainfall. In most years the rainfall is sufficient for the needs of the district, but in some years as in 1967 its early cessation proves fatal to the rice crop on which the people depend. Practically the whole of the cultivated area is under rice in Kharif season and other crops are scarcely grown at all.

There is, however, to a certain extent, a compensating influence in droughts and floods. While heavy floods drown the low-lands, the higher levels escape. If the floods are caused by an excessive local rainfall, as occasionally happens, the dry uplands are greatly benefited, but their extent is so small that this does not compensate for the loss of the crops in the low-lying tracts. The district does not present such extremes of dryness or moisture, that any considerable area ordinarily lies fallow in the uplands for want of rain, or upon the lower levels on account of the marshy character of the land. In years when there is scanty rainfall the low-lying tracts make up, in an important degree, by their freedom from flood, for the loss of crops in the arid higher levels. The *pats* or cup-lands produce magnificent harvests in dry seasons, while the higher tracts suffer severely. It may accordingly be accepted as a rule that in years of drought the sterility of the higher-levels may often be compensated by the increased outturn in the low-lying tracts. Generally speaking, therefore, a year of flood does more harm than a year of moderate drought.

### Cyclones

Besides droughts and floods, the district is liable to a third form of natural calamity. Placed at the north-west corner of the Bay of Bengal, it is exposed to the full brunt of the cyclones generated at sea, which travel in a north-westerly course up the Bay and sometimes burst upon its shores accompanied by irresistible storm waves.

These cyclones are generally generated during the transition periods antecedent and subsequent to the full establishment of the south-west monsoon, i.e., during the months of April and May and October and November. Their most striking features are the great barometric depression in the centres and the magnitude of



the storm area. These two causes produce a large accumulation of water at and near the centre, which progresses with the storm and gives rise to a destructive storm-wave, when the centre reaches shelving coast. It then sweeps inland, and the damage caused is terrible and widespread.

### **Cyclones of 1823, 1831 and 1832**

Such destructive cyclones are fortunately rare, but so far back as we have records, we find that they have periodically devastated the district. On the night of the 27th May, 1823 there was a furious cyclone, which is said to have been the third calamity of the kind within eight years. It is reported that the sea suddenly rose and penetrated six miles (9.6 km.) inland carrying with it large ships and sweeping away whole villages with every living creature in them, not even the vestige of a human habitation being left. But the severest disaster of this kind on record occurred on the evening and night of the 31st October 1831. Along the whole extent of the coast the country was submerged by a storm-wave 7 to 15 feet (2.133 to 4.572 metres.) in height, which breached the Trunk Road at a point nine miles (14.5 km.) as the crow flies, from the east.

The report of the commissioners appointed to enquire into the famine in Bengal and Orissa in 1866 says "The most intense calamity of the present century (19th) seems to have been the inundation of the sea on the Balasore coast in 1831-32".

According to an early account, "the whole country, for many miles on the sea coast, was inundated, and in this district alone, upwards of 22,000 lives were lost, and more than 50,000 head of cattle. The hurricane commenced in the north-east and blew from all points of the compass before it terminated not only no houses, except those pucca built, were left standing, but the whole district suffered more or less; the damage to property, and loss of life was enormous. Mr. Ricketts, at that time, Magistrate and Collector, made a circuit of the district immediately after the storm, and the names of more than 20,000 were registered as having perished. It is asserted the whole country was deluged by two successive waves, which carried everything before them. Many poor wretch was overwhelmed ere he could reach high ground, or even ascend a tree. Dead bodies of men, women and children were found after the storm, interspersed with those of wild beasts, birds and bullocks. The wind blow at times with the greatest violence; sturdy trees that had borne the blast from many a long day were uprooted, pillars erected hundreds of years since were levelled to the ground; two of the walls surrounding the jail were blown in, and one out; an iron suspension bridge was blown from its moorings and carried some distance

against the stream. The weather for two or three days previous to the storm looked cloudy and threatening, the following morning was clear and beautiful. The country looked as if it had been burnt up, every bush and blade of grass was blasted."

The distress and difficulties occasioned by this storm were scarcely surmounted, when a second great cyclone occurred in October, 1832. On this occasion the cyclone is said to have been more violent, but the storm-wave less destructive. These calamities were followed by a drought in 1833 by which the failure of the food supply was superadded to the destruction of the rice crops by the cyclones. In these three years 50,000 human beings were destroyed by drowning and starvation. The whole sea-face was depopulated, in some parts no vestiges of cultivation or habitation remained and many estates have never completely recovered.

### **Cyclones of 1872, 1885 and 1887**

Some violent storms occurred in 1872, 1885 and 1887. In 1872 the storm was accompanied by a tidal irruption all along the coast, and some lives and a great number of cattle were lost. That of 1885 did far less damage in this district than in Cuttack where a storm-wave 15 feet (4.572 metres) high, which broke over False Point on September 22nd, submerged 250 square miles and drowned about 5,000 persons. In Balেশ্বর, the only track which suffered severely from this cyclone and sea-wave was the government estate of Birso, where most of the tenants lost all or nearly all their crops. Here, as in other parts of the district over which the cyclone passed, a large number of houses and trees were blown down by the wind, the Engineer's house at Akhuapada was entirely wrecked and its roof carried away bodily. With these exceptions, the sea-coast of Balেশ্বর, which was then for the most part uninhabited and covered with jungle, did not suffer seriously, for the storm-wave was stopped by the embankment of the sea-coast canal, which saved hundreds of square miles from being submerged by salt water. The last great cyclone was that which burst upon the coast in the early morning of the 26th May, 1887, when the sea swept over the Orissa Coast Canal embankment and penetrated within 3.2 km. of the town of Balেশ্বর.

### **Cyclone of 1942**

After the lapse of about fifty-five years, another disastrous cyclone passed over the district on the night of 16th October, 1942. It caused a great deal of damage to crops, cattle and houses. The northern portion of the district, comprising the four police-stations of Bhograi, Baliaṭpal, Jaleshwar and Singla, was badly affected. The on-rush of sea-water submerged vast stretches of land to the south of Bhograi police-station. The calamity took a toll of 291 lives. More than 35,000 houses had collapsed and 23,000 heads of cattle were lost.

### **Cyclone of 1959**

A severe cyclone accompanied with torrential rain started blowing from the afternoon of 29th September, 1959, and continued unabated till the morning of 1st October, 1959. It hit different parts of the district, but its intensity was felt more in the coastal belt. For two days following the disaster, the people suffered immensely. Normal life was paralysed. What the preceding flood had spared was destroyed by the cyclone and this aggravated the plight. Eighty-three lives were lost. More than 4,00,000 people and 1,50,000 acres of cultivated land were affected. About 19,000 houses were damaged and 2500 numbers of cattle lost. Of all the districts in Orissa, Balashwar suffered the most.

### **Cyclone of 1976**

On the 12th May, 1976 a norwester affected seven villages which caused immense damage to private houses, public institutions and government buildings. Besides, more than 150 livestock and four human lives died and as many as 57 persons received injuries. Emergent relief was given by the Government for 3 days. Voluntary organisations also supplied cooked food and Chuda, etc., in the affected villages. Government sanctioned house building grants for all the collapsed houses at the rate not exceeding Rs. 150.00 per house.

### **Cyclone of 1981-82**

A terrible cyclonic storm visited the district during the period from the 8th to 10th December 1981 which caused immense damage to crops, houses, educational institutions and other public properties. This storm was detected over west-central bay of West Bengal on 8th December, 1981. It developed into a hurricane with wind speed exceeding 120 kilometres per hour. Moving northwards it crossed the coast near Sagar island at about 11.30 p. m. on 10th December, 1981. In this calamity the C. D. blocks of Bhograi, Baliapal, Jaleshwar, Balashwar, Remuna, Bahananaga, Soro, Khaira and Similia of Balashwar subdivision; Bhadrak, Tihidi, Bant, Basudebpur, Dhamnagar, Bhandaripokhari and Chandbali belonging to Bhadrak subdivision and Nilagiri and Oupada of Nilagiri subdivision were affected. A population of 1,08,840 belonging to 335 villages of 63 Grama Panchayats were affected by this calamity. Forty-one human lives and 259 livestock were lost in this hurricane, besides 39 houses fully and 117 houses partly collapsed. In Bhograi and Baliapal C. D. blocks huge damage had been caused to the betel vines.

### **Cyclone of 1982**

Before the foot-prints of the last cyclone were washed away from the memory of the people, they were again affected by a severe natural calamity in the form of cyclone on the 3rd June, 1982.

According to information received from the Meteorological Department, the storm was detected at 14.30 hours on the 1st June, 1982 at about 800 kilometres south-east of Paradeep in the district of Cuttack. It moved steadily in a north-westerly direction without appreciable intensification up to 8.30 hours of 3rd June. It intensified into a severe cyclonic storm with a core of hurricane wind during the course of the day and crossed north Orissa coast near False Point at late hours of the night. After nightfall it weakened into a cyclonic storm and moved in north-westerly direction causing heavy rains in the district of Baleshwar, alongwith six other districts of the state. According to the records of the ship Renusagar, berthed at Paradeep the speed of the wind was 180 kilometres per hour. But the anemometer of Paradeep radar had been blown away when the speed reached the above velocity and the wind speed at the time of actual crossing was reported to have been reached 220 kilometres per hour.

At Puri, Paradeep and Chandbali ports danger signal No. 7 was hoisted. Even though danger signal No. 10 was to be hoisted the message could not reach the port of Chandbali due to disruption of telecommunication system. Special cyclonic bulletins were broadcasted by All India Radio, Cuttack, at regular intervals.

In this devastation, 17 Community Development Blocks, i.e., Khairā, Similia, Bahanaga, Soro, Baleshwar Sadar, Remuna, Basta, Baliapal, Chandbali, Tihidi, Dhamnagar, Bhandaripokhari, Bant, Bhadrak, Basudebpur, Nilagiri and Oupada were affected. Altogether 12.72 lakhs of people belonging to 3,808 villages of 6,292 square kilometres were affected. Twenty-one persons lost their lives and 77 people were injured, besides loss of 204 livestock. 9,171 houses were fully and 39,896 houses partly collapsed and 47,598 houses partly damaged. The value of crop loss was estimated to have been 34.28 lakhs of rupees.

Immediate relief operations were rushed to the affected areas and the then Prime Minister visited the devastated areas for an on the spot study. The State Government submitted a memorandum to the Central Government for financial assistance and the latter sanctioned an amount of 56 crores of rupees for the purpose up to the 23rd July, 1982.

### **Flood and River embankments**

Baleshwar district being a coastal district is frequently subjected to flood. The total flood prone area of the district is about 1,807 sq. km.

Embankments for protection against flood inundation in small stretches have existed from the very early times and those were mounds in nature whereas the general countryside was open to inundation. Under Maratha Government the zamindars were to maintain the embankments. But this arrangement proved to be unsatisfactory. Subsequently during British regime the embankments were taken over by Public Works Department in 1831. These small embankments were insufficient in height and strength to withstand heavy flood. Hence from 1866 the strengthening of these embankments were taken up. Embankments were maintained under the Act XXXII of 1855 and there were 38 miles (61.15 km.) of embankments under Akhuapada—Jajpur division and 32 miles (51.49 km.) under Baleshwar division to protect 150 sq. miles (389.85 sq. km.) of land. Regarding past reports on embankments Kingsford settlement report, report of A. S. Thomson, Superintending Engineer, Orissa Circle and report on Revision Settlement of Orissa by W. W. Dalziel are of importance.

After independence, most of the embankments have been improved with raising and strengthening and new embankments have been constructed out of the flood control grants. Now there are 66 km. of capital embankments and 116.45 km. of Orissa agricultural embankments along different stretches of the rivers in this district. The problem of flood and the necessity of adequate remedial measures have been drawing the attention of the Government. The problems were studied by Orissa Flood Enquiry Committee in 1928 and another committee of 1959—62 and they suggested some remedial measures. Dr. K. L. Rao, the then Union Minister inspected the flood affected areas of Orissa and West Bengal on 21. 9. 67 and 10. 8. 68 and entrusted Jagar Ali and J. P. Jain, Consultants, Ministry of Irrigation and Power to study the flood problems. At the instance of Union Ministry of Irrigation and Power, a joint inspection of Subarnarekha river was made by the Chief Engineers of West Bengal and Orissa, and the Chief Engineer, Floods, C. W. P. C. (Central Water and Power Commission) during 1969. The recommendations were for double embankments and improvement of water way river Subarnarekha. But the double embankment proposal was not acceptable since this involves the problem of rehabilitation of 55,000 people of 173 villages on the river bank. Then during 1972-73 a Master Plan was prepared in consultation with the Chief Engineers of Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa and Central Water Commission with recommendation of the flood detention reservoirs in Bihar and marginal embankments in West Bengal and Orissa. Accordingly the Subarnarekha Multipurpose Project report has been framed and Phase-I part of the Project with Chandil dam, Ichha dam and Galudihi barrage are under execution in Bihar State.

Similarly it has been proposed for construction of flood detention reservoir across river Baitarani at Bhimkund in Kendujhar district and to take up marginal flood embankments on either banks of river Baitarani to minimise the flood havoc in Baleshwar and Cuttack districts.

### **Saline Embankments**

Baleshwar district is having a coastline of about 145 km. The average high tide along the coast is 2.8 metres and the range of the tide is from 2.5 m. to 2.8 m. The tidal ingress causes the saline inundation in the inland. The total area subjected to saline inundation in this district is 651 sq. km. Saline embankments have been constructed along the coast and the creeks for a total length of 175 km. in different stretches to prevent saline inundation.

### **Test Relief Embankments**

The test relief embankments in small stretches along the drainage channels, creeks and along the rivers were constructed in the past as a test relief measure under the Revenue Department. It was decided by the Government that these test relief embankments which are giving protection to the villages and agricultural fields and are not creating obstruction to the free flow of water and are not creating any drainage congestion should be taken over by the Irrigation department. Accordingly the 40th, 49th, 50th and 51st Technical Advisory Committee examined and approved the list of test relief embankments to be maintained by the Irrigation department. The total length of test relief embankments in Baleshwar district maintained by the Irrigation department is 332.07 km.

A detailed list of Capital embankments, Orissa Agricultural embankments, Saline embankments and Test relief embankments maintained under the Irrigation department is given in Appendix I.

### **Flood of 1868**

So far as its effect on cultivation is concerned, the duration of a flood is more important than the maximum rise and the period of the season at which it may occur is of even more importance. For this reason, the flood of 1868, which occurred after a fortnight's heavy rain and was then the highest within the memory of the people, did not do much damage; it occurred in June, and the crops consequently did not suffer greatly though every river in the district overflowed.

### **Flood of 1896**

In 1896, great damage was caused by exceptionally heavy and prolonged floods; the country was under water for nearly a month, and the loss was therefore exceptionally great. The inundations were due to the rising of the rivers Subarnarekha in the north and of the Baitarani in the south. The flood in the Subarnarekha began at the end of July, and when the water had subsided a little, attempts were made to repair the damage done and to transplant new seedlings; but in the last week of August the river again rose, sweeping away nearly all the transplanted rice. The central part of the district, along the Burhabalanga and Salandi suffered less than the northern tract, where about 300 square miles were inundated; but the south was seriously affected by the floods of the Baitarani river, and much damage was done to the standing crop. Some lost their houses and property, and there was more or less distress in all the tracts open to the ravages of the flood. Very little of the *bhadoj* crop was reaped, and the difficulties of the people were aggravated by the loss of the winter rice crop, for the fields had to be resown late, and a drought from about the middle of October to January was fatal to its growth. The result was, as described later in this chapter, a certain amount of scarcity and considerable distress among the poorer classes.

### **Flood of 1900**

In this flood the water rose 18 inches higher than the highest flood previously recorded. Prompt measures were taken for the relief of the sufferers, boats were sent out to rescue the homeless whose houses had been washed away; and they were brought into Baleshwar where they were clothed and fed until they were able to return to their villages. There was little loss of human life, but a large number of cattle were drowned, and special measures had to be taken to dispose of the carcasses which were found lying around the villages when the flood subsided. The agricultural embankments were breached and the crops suffered severely, especially in the western part of the district. The railway line was also breached at several places, and the running of trains from Baleshwar to the north was stopped for sometime.

### **Floods of 1913 and 1920**

In 1913, the rivers Matai, Burhabalanga and Baitarani rose in spate and caused extensive damages. Flood in 1920 again swelled the Subarnarekha, Panchpara, Matai and Baitarani rivers. A number of breaches in their embankments did considerable damage to crops.

### **Floods of 1926 and 1927**

In 1926, rivers in the district again rose in high flood and the damages in Bhadrak subdivision were intense. The flood of 1927 was unprecedented. There were breaches on the left embankment of Baitarani and 17.2 km. of the railway line were washed away. Dhamnagar police-station area was badly affected. About 65,000 houses were damaged. A considerable number of cattle and 53 human lives were lost. The winter crops also failed. To ameliorate the condition of afflicted people, gratuitous relief and Taccavi loans were distributed.

### **Floods of 1931, 1940 and 1943**

There was a partial failure of crop in 1931 in some parts of the district on account of a saline inundation in Chandbali and Basudebpur areas and water-logging in some other areas. There were also floods in 1940. The district again suffered the ravages of flood in 1943. The saline inundation in coastal tracts seriously damaged the paddy crop. The intensity of the havoc necessitated relief work. After this for about a decade onward, the district enjoyed a respite from the visitation of serious floods.

### **Floods of 1955**

In 1954, a general failure of rains overtook the whole state during the months of July and August when the thinning and reploughing of fields sown by broadcasting and the transplantation of paddy were on progress. The district, in particular suffered from acute distress which continued till the last week of August 1955. Then rain fell heavily and continuously for a week ending on 4th September, 1955. All the rivers rose to great height and it is said "the State did not ever have the experience of the kind in their living memory during the preceding one hundred years"\*. The flood was so devastating that it breached embankments, roads and washed away many villages, and sand-cast vast areas of paddy lands. The loss sustained was colossal. The flood caused damages in this district to 629 villages affecting 2,14,408 people and 1,90,447 acres of cultivated land. There were 67 breaches of roads and embankments, 2,384 houses were damaged and 265 cattle lost. The approximate cash value of the crop-loss was Rs. 1,32,63,600.

### **Flood of 1956**

In 1956, contrary to expectation there was an earlier break of monsoon followed by a heavy rainfall throughout the first week of June and the rivers Baitarani, Burhabalanga and Subarnarekha, with their branches and tributaries, were in spate. Floods came

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\*Flood in Orissa Rivers—1955 and 1956.



in these river systems several times. Though the flood did not assail the previous year's height, the damages it did were considerable because of water-logging caused by heavy rainfall. In all 1691 villages and 19,672 acres of cultivated lands were affected. The flood caused 42 breaches in roads and embankments of the district. The total valuation of the crops lost was estimated approximately at Rs. 8,00,000.

Floods again occurred in 1958 and 1959 but the damage inflicted did not assume any serious proportion.

### **Flood of 1960**

The district was badly affected by the flood in 1960 which occurred twice from 15th to 25th August and from 25th September to 2nd October. The coastal tract of Bhadrak sub-division was worst affected. Five persons lost their lives. About 3,300 houses were destroyed and 8,100 damaged. The approximate cash valuation of the loss reported to have been Rs. 3,52,27,930.

### **Flood of 1969**

As a result of torrential rainfall in the catchment areas from the 13th August, 1969, there were high floods in the rivers of Subarnarekha, Salandi and Baitarani on the 14th August. The rivers Burhabalanga and Kansabansa were also flooded on the next day. There were also heavy rains within the district on 13th August. As a result, floods, were experienced in the Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Nilagiri subdivisions and an area of 1,56,650-60 acres of cultivated land was affected and 490 acres were sand-cast. A population of 4,15,880 covering 980 villages of 10 C. D. blocks suffered in this flood.

### **Flood of 1971**

There was heavy rainfall in the catchment areas of the river Subarnarekha, Baitarani, Kochila, Genguti and Jalaka, on the 7th June, from the 27th July to 28th July and 8th August to 9th August 1971. As a result, the above rivers were in spate affecting large areas. To add to the misery, another disaster was faced by the district when flood water of Midnapur district of West Bengal rushed through the Coast canal and over—topped the embankment in Bhograi C. D. Block of Baleshwar subdivision, inundating 253 villages in protected areas and affecting 45,331 acres of cultivable land in Bhograi, Jaleshwar, Baliapal, Basta, Tihidi, Bhandaripokhari, Chandbali, Basudebpur, Bhadrak, Baleshwar Sadar, Remuna, Soro Similia, Dhamnagar and Nilagiri C. D. Blocks. This affected a population of 69,640. The Bhadrak-Chandbali road was completely cut off for a fortnight. Besides there were breaches in the existing test

relief embankments which inundated vast areas. Again there was heavy rainfall in the entire district from the 14th October to 16th October 1971 accompanied by cyclonic wind particularly in the Basudebpur area. As a result, floods appeared in the rivers of Burhabalanga, Baitarani, Salandi and Kansbans. In this flood the Bhadrak-Chandbali road, Bhadrak-Basudebpur road and Baleshwar-Basta road were cut off. About 1,125 marooned people were shifted to safer places.

During this year 6.13 lakhs of people belonging to 15 C. D. Blocks were affected. An area of 5.21 lakh acres were also affected in it. Besides the loss of two human lives, 36 livestock were lost by this flood. Relief as permissible was granted by the Government.

### **Flood of 1972**

Due to excessive rains on 13th and 14th July, 1972 the rivers of this district were in spate causing damage by sand-casting of land, destruction of crops, loss of human life and livestock. In this flood Soro, Similia, Bahanaga blocks of Baleshwar subdivision and Bhadrak, Bant, Bhandaripokhari, Dhamnagar, Tihiri, Chandbali, Basudebpur and Khaira blocks belonging to Bhadrak subdivision were affected. A population of 4.45 lakhs of 931 villages suffered and 2.89 lakh acres of land were affected. This natural calamity claimed loss of two human lives and 72 cattle.

### **Flood of 1974**

There was heavy rainfall and gales with a speed of about 80 kilometres per hour from the morning of the 15th August and it continued on the following day. As a result, there were high floods in the rivers of Subarnarekha, Chitrarekha, Jalaka, Kansbans, Burhabalanga, Sone, Gangahara, Baitarani, Genguti and other small rivers flowing in the district. In this flood 5,57,440 people of 1,372 villages belonging to Bhograi, Jaleshwar, Basta, Baliapal, Baleshwar, Remuna, Chandbali, Dhamnagar, Bhandaripokhari and Tihiri blocks were affected. It claimed a toll of two human lives and 23 livestock. Two important breaches, one at Misrapur and the other at Kantighai on the left bank of the Baitarani occurred. The early variety of paddy was substantially damaged. Besides, nine minor irrigation projects and twenty-seven roads belonging to Rural Engineering Organisation (now defunct) were also damaged alongwith forty P. W. D. roads, 222 private institutions and 1,497 tube-wells.

### **Flood of 1975**

Due to heavy precipitation in the catchment areas of Subarnarekha, Burhabalanga, Jalaka, Kansbans, Salandi and Baitarani all these rivers were in high spate crossing the danger levels between

the 18th and 22nd August, 1975. Spill over water of Salandi inundated the low-lying areas of Bhadrak town. River Jalaka in Basta area and Kansbans in the Soro area were also in spate. Communications from Bhadrak to Anandpur of Kendujhar district and Basta to Baliapal were completely disrupted. Flood water entered Jaleshwar and Chandbali towns in the evening of 19th August. Serious breaches occurred at Ambagadia and Jagannath Prasad of Bhadrak subdivision in Baitarani left embankment. Chandbali, Bansada and Tihiri were water-logged for more than a week. In this flood 1,013,100 people of 2,408 villages belonging to 17 C. D. blocks in two subdivisions and an area of 643,769 acres (260.72 hectares) were affected. Nine\* persons died in the flood and loss of livestock amounted to 600. People were given all possible government assistance besides the help of a large number of private organisations and individuals.

### **Flood of 1978**

There was a mild flood in September 1978 in the rivers of Baitarani, Genguti, Subarnarekha, Jalaka, Pejagola, Burhabalanga, Sone and Gangahar causing damage to the C. D. Blocks of Basta, Baliapal, Baleshwar, Bhograi, Jaleshwar, Remuna, Dhamnagar, Bhandaripokhari, Tihiri and Chandbali. A population of 5,33,609 of 1,102 villages belonging to 101 Grama Panchayats were affected by this flood. This flood claimed loss of one human life besides affecting a total area of 3,30,218 acres of which 68,730 acres were under different crops.

### **Flood of 1981-82**

The district experienced its first phase floods in the last week of June, 1981 in the rivers Baitarani, Kochila, Genguti and Burhabalanga. As a result of this flood 362 villages in three C. D. Blocks of this district were affected covering a total area of 51,133 hectares. Besides, cultivated land of 26,655 hectares were also affected with an estimated crop loss of six lakh rupees. Although six houses fully collapsed, no loss of human lives or cattle was reported. During the month of September this district was also visited by a medium flood in the rivers of Baitarani and Sona, a tributary of Burhabalanga. No serious damage during this flood was reported.

### **Flood of 1984**

The district of Baleshwar is generally affected by flood from August to October. But during 1984, there was flood in river Subarnarekha on 5th June, 1984. The river further crossed danger level on 28th

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\* Out of 21 persons left for sea from Basudebpur whereabouts of seven persons and one person from Jagannath Prasad of Baleshwar district were not known.

June, 9th, 15th and 28th August and on 5th September, 1984. Similarly there was flood for 3 times in river Baitarani. Rivers Burhabalanga, Kansbans, Jalaka, Reb and Kapali were also in spate during the year. Owing to flood, 17 out of 19 C.D. Blocks covering 1,604 villages with a population of 9.06 lakhs were affected. 6393 private houses and 2,212 school buildings were collapsed. There was 3 human casualty.

### **Flood of 1985**

During 1985, there was flood during the months of August, September and October. Flood during October 1985 in river Subarnarekha was the highest in recent memory. There was also heavy flood, in rivers Baitarani, Burhabalanga, Kansbans, Sone and Jalaka. All the 19 C. D. Blocks covering 2,511 villages with a population of 13.66 lakhs were affected. As many as 24,714 private houses and 3,212 school buildings were either collapsed or damaged. A number of roads and embankments were also damaged. There was human casualty to the extent of 41 and cattle 885.

### **Famines**

The following is an account of early famines taken from O' Malley's, Balasore District Gazetteer (1907).

"Previous to the inception of the Orissa canal system, droughts and famines were of frequent occurrence. Historical records show that terrible famines occurred in the 14th, 15th and 16th centuries; and during the rule of the Marathas the district suffered grievously from repeated famines. In the memorable famines of 1770 the land lay untilld, rice was not to be had at two seers per rupee, and while the people were dying by hundreds of thousands, the Marathas soldiery plundered and devastated the country. In 1780, the whole country had sunk into such absolute desolation that there was not a single place except Puri and Cuttack which could furnish even one battalion with provisions. In 1792-93 the miserable peasants again experienced the horrors of famine; scarcity followed in 1803, and when the country passed into the possession of the British its condition was wretched. A large portion of the land had been thrown into waste; many of the people had fled to the jungle; and the population was insufficient to till the fields."<sup>1</sup>

### **Famine of 1865-66**

In 1865-66, a famine of most intense and desolating in character, popularly known as "Na-Anka Durbhikhya", visited the district. No such calamity had ever occurred. "It had to be dealt with by a body of officials, ignorant of the signs of its approach, unprepared to expect it, and inexperienced in the administration of relief measures; nor were the native inhabitants more aware of what was coming on

them than the British Officers. The rainfall of 1865 was scanty and ceased entirely after the middle of September so that the out-turn of the great crop of winter rice, on which the country mainly depends, was reckoned at less than a third of the average crop. Food-stocks were low both because the quantity exported in 1865 was unusually large, and because the people, unaccustomed to precarious seasons, had not retained sufficient stores at home. When the harvest failed the gravity of the occasion was not perceived and so special inquiries were instituted, while prices long remained so moderate that they offered no temptation to importers and forced no reduction in consumption on the inhabitants, till suddenly the province was found to be almost bare of food. It was only in May 1866 that it was discovered that the markets were so empty that the jail prisoners and the Government establishments could not be supplied. But the southern monsoon had now begun and importation by sea or land became nearly impossible. Orissa was at that time almost isolated from the rest of India; the only road leading to Calcutta was unmetalled and unbridged; and there was little communication by sea. By great exertions, the Government succeeded in importing about 10,000 tons of food-grain by the end of November, and this was given away gratuitously or sold at low rates, or distributed in wages to the starving population. But meanwhile the mortality among those whom this relief did not either reach, or reached too late, had been very high, and it was estimated that nearly 10,00,000 persons had died (in the whole of Orissa). The rate of mortality reached its climax in August, when heavy rains caused great suffering among the people, who were then at the lowest state of exhaustion, emaciated by hunger and without adequate shelter. Disastrous floods in Cuttack and in the south-east of Balasore followed these rains and in all the low-lying lands the crop was lost. The harvest in the higher lands was, however, a good one; the new crop came into the market in September; and though the rate of mortality continued high for sometime owing to cholera, the famine came to close in November.

### History of the famine in Balasore

With this brief sketch of the general history of this disastrous famine, we may turn to a more detailed account of the progress of events in Balasore. The rice crop of Balasore in 1864 had been unusually a good one, and the exports enormous. In 1865, no alarm seems to have been felt regarding the safety of the cold weather or *sarad* rice crop till September, or even later, prices still ruling at 23 to 20 seers per rupee. At the end of October, however, complaints were received from the zamindars that the crops

were ruined; that the ryots, being unable to obtain advances, could not pay their rents; and that the cultivators had blindly disposed of all their produce and kept no stock in hand. In November, prices had gone up to 16 and 11 seers per rupee, and the distress became acute. Accordingly, a Relief Committee was appointed, but it was considered that no immediate measures of relief were required. Early in 1866, there was an extraordinary outbreak of crime, and the houses of those who were supposed to possess grain were attacked and plundered by their destitute neighbours. At the end of January, starvation appeared, the poor began to flock into the town and gratuitous distribution of food was commenced. In March and April, the number of starving people in the town rapidly increased; and on the 2nd May the Commissioner reported that, owing to the extraordinary rise in prices it had been for some months beyond the means of the poorer classes to procure sufficient rice to support life, and that they were eking out a miserable subsistence by eating roots, herbs and leaves. The general population had fallen into a state of dejection, and had lost all energy. They were swarming into the villages, and they were dying of cholera, dysentery or hunger. Even in Balasore town, the organised relief was utterly insufficient to meet the need of food. A distribution which the Commissioner witnessed in April was a scene of utter confusion, the starving crowds were beyond management; they seized the food as soon as they saw it, and even fell on the Commissioner, snatching from his hands and pockets the rice which he intended to distribute. So uncontrollable was the attack of the paupers on the pots of cooked food, that for a time the Committee was obliged to give out uncooked rice, but it was soon found that the rice so given was devoured raw, and the Committee therefore reverted to cooked food.

Government began to import grain in June, steamers being sent round by sea with large cargoes of rice, and by the end of July 12,000 maunds had been imported. Private importations by land from Midnapore into the north of the district were also considerable, but still hardly sufficient to meet the demand from day to day. Traders too, began to import grain from Calcutta on pack-bullocks, but in the middle of June this traffic was stopped by the rains, which made the unmetalled road impossible. Rice shops were opened early in the town and at several places in the interior for the sale of rice to all-comers at a low rate; but, unfortunately, the relief operations received a check, just at the time when they were in full operation, by a failure in the supply of rice. In August the stock became exhausted at a time when a vessel was lying at the mouth of the Balasore river with a cargo of 10,000 maunds of rice. Her draught of water, however, was so great, that she could not come within 8 miles of the shore;

and the country boats and sloops could not get out to her without the assistance of a steamer. Unhappily, no steamer was available at the time; and ultimately bad weather set in, which drove the ship across the Bay of Bengal to Akyab. Thus the supply of rice was unexpectedly snatched away almost from the mouths of the people just when it was most needed. The result was intense distress in the first half of August, and in the first 12 days of that month the police removed over 1000 corpses from the town."<sup>1</sup>

The Collector in his report<sup>2</sup> to the Commissioner wrote: "The death rate was found to diminish steadily in direct ratio to the distance from the sea. The tract under the hills of Nilagiri kingdom suffered but slightly from the famine. This is probably due to the fact that the ryots here bunded the small hill-streams and they stored the main part of the scanty supply of rain which fell in 1865. The ryots on the east of the trunk road trust mainly to their tanks for water, and as these did not fill in that year, death was the consequence."

"The distress in the Bhadrak subdivision was equally great. In March and April grain robberies and incendiarism had appeared to an alarming extent; and in May it was reported that rice was selling at the rate of three and half seers for the rupee, and that numbers of people were starving. Relief operations were started at Bhadrak, but it was not till the 10th August that rice arrived in sufficient quantities to enable the Committee to open centres in the interior, and to afford relief on any considerable scale. Heavy inundations added to the suffering. In the eastern part of the subdivision, the early rice crop was injured, houses were swept away, and the people perished of cold, exposure, and hunger, being cut off by the floods from access to supplies. The grain-dealers had closed their shops, declaring that they had no rice left. On the 25th August, rice was sold at Dhamnagar, 10 miles south of Bhadrak, at the rate of one rupee per seer, the highest price recorded at any time or place during the famine. Supplies were kept up at the relief centres, but with great difficulty, from Balasore; and in September a second inundation fearfully enhanced the distress of the people. On the 25th October it was reported that the distress was still very great, that the country everywhere bore traces of famine, inundation and pestilence. Unsown lands, ruined houses and living skeletons met the eye everywhere. In the preceding week the daily total of persons receiving gratuitous relief at the eleven centres which had been established in the subdivision amounted to 2,03,000 giving a daily average of 29,000."<sup>3</sup>

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1. Balasore District Gazetteer, 1907, Chapter VI, pp. 98 - 100.

2. Collector's letter No. 393, dated 16.7.1867.

3. Balasore District Gazetteer, 1907, Chapter VI, pp. 100 - 101.

In the whole of the district, the tract (comprising Ankurah and Berah) situated on the sea coast between the Kansbans river on the north and the northern boundary of Killa Kanika, was the scene of intense suffering. In the earlier part of 1865 excessive rain destroyed a great portion of rice crop, and almost the whole of the remainder perished during the subsequent drought. This tract had already been declining since the abandonment of salt monopoly and was thus less able to cope with such an accumulation of disasters and had suffered the most. The mortality was about 48 per cent, the highest in the district (Collector's report).

"The coming in of the new crops gradually relieved the distress. On 5th November, the Government sales were stopped; and the Collector reported that public health was improving and trade reviving. Soon after the majority of the paupers dispersed and returned to their homes. The Relief Committee finally stopped operations on the 24th November. During the year the price of rice rose as high as  $2\frac{1}{2}$  seers to the rupees, and in the town of Balasore alone 10,000 paupers succumbed to starvation and disease. The total mortality was estimated at 2,17,608 although 31,424 deaths being ascribed to diseases resulting starvation; 29,558 persons emigrated, and the total loss was, therefore, 2,47,167, or one-third of the population.

The maximum number of centres opened for gratuitous relief, including 11 in the Bhadrak subdivision, was 22, the distance between them ranging from 5 to 22 miles, but averaging 12 miles. Shops for the sale of rice to those who had money, were opened at 7 places besides Balasore town, in which 3 shops were established. The daily average number of persons relieved from June to November was 26,497, viz., 4,552 employed on light labour and 21,945 in receipt of gratuitous relief. The greatest difficulty was experienced in getting the people to work at all; and the Collector reported that the Oriyas would rather die than go even a few miles from their homes to procure work.

The Famine Commissioners in their Report give the following general review of the operations:—

"After the famine had unmistakably declared itself the local endeavours to meet it were crippled by want of funds. Until May, the possibility of obtaining assistance on such a scale as that on which it was subsequently obtained, was never contemplated, nor indeed, was any adequate idea entertained of the dimensions which the requirements for aid would assume. "There were starving people in April," it has been said, "but we did not



realize that they would come pouring in such thousands". Nor indeed, could these numbers have been anticipated by the residents of Balasore, for many of the paupers came from other districts and from the estates of the Tributary Rajas. After the importation of rice was undertaken, it was more than once necessary to restrict the district operations, in consequence of the scantiness and uncertainty of the supply, and many of those who received the imported rice in June and July were probably too far gone to be saved. The number of paupers ascertained to have in the town of Balasore alone between June and October was 8,900, of whom 6,132 died in the streets and 2,768 in the hospital. The mortality culminated in August, and was to some extent affected by the rains and inundations of that month.

"The mortality in and about Balasore town, and the famine sights to be seen there were more terrible than at any other place in Bengal or Orissa. The mass of paupers assembled was larger than it was elsewhere. The town lay in the way of many who left their homes in hopes of reaching Calcutta. Of these, many, exhausted and disabled by hunger and diseases from going further, remained to swell the number who were fed by the Relief Committee. Subjects of the neighbouring Tributary Rajas also flocked in to share in the relief. These, as well as the travellers generally, arrived in such a condition that they were beyond recovery. In the early months, cholera, and subsequently other bowel-complaints caused by bad and insufficient food, carried off hundreds; the least change of weather to cold or damp was immediately fatal. Many who were caught by bad weather at a distance from the places of distribution had not strength to crawl back to get their meal, and so died, where they lay, in out-houses or by the way-side. Even in fine weather, many were found dead in the morning where they had lain down to sleep at night; others, when they went to drink, fell into the water through sheer debility and were drowned."<sup>1</sup>

The role played by the native zamindars to relieve the distress has been stated in the following words by the then Collector.

"I regret to state that the zamindars throughout the district have done little or nothing for their royats; the advance of rice that they have sometimes assisted men of substance who were likely to be able to repay them, but gave little aid to those whose need was direct. More than this it is reported that they have, with some exception, collected as much as possible of their rents."<sup>2</sup>

1. Balasore District Gazetteer, L.S.S. O'Malley, 1907, pp. 101-102.

2. Report No. 393, dated 16.7.1867 from the Collector to the Commissioner.

### Scarcity of 1897

There was scarcity in 1897. "The rainfall in 1896 was 9 inches above the normal, amounting to 69 inches, but its distribution was untimely. There was heavy rain in June, July and August, but there was an almost complete cessation of the rainfall from the latter part of September to the close of January. The consequence of these abnormal conditions was that there were successive and heavy floods followed by drought. The floods almost totally destroyed the *bhadoi* and winter rice crops in nearly all the tracts not protected by embankments. These were also breached in many places, and extensive tracts lay under deep water for a considerable period. The peasants endeavoured, after the floods subsided, to recoup their losses by fresh planting, but the cessation of rains from the latter part of September gave the finishing stroke in many places to what had escaped or been replanted after the flood. Want of rain in September and October was equally injurious to the *rabi* crops. The people tried their best to meet the loss by raising *dalua* and other special crops, and the situation was also relieved by the railway works then in progress, which gave employment to a large number of the labouring classes. These works were supplemented by those started for the repair of the damages caused by the floods, and fortunately there had been good harvests in the two preceding years. Notwithstanding, therefore, the poor out-turn of crops, no rice had to be imported, but on the contrary the export of rice from Balasore increased. The result of this exportation at a time when prices were very high outside Orissa meant that the cultivators received good prices for such surplus stock as they possessed, though much of the profit doubtless went to middlemen. The classes that suffered most were the landless labourers and those depending on fixed incomes, including the *bhadralok* whose circumstances were straitened by high prices. The wants of the former were, however, met to a large extent by the demand for labour in railway and public works activities and where necessary, by district works that answered the purpose of relief works. The case of the very low castes and of those who ordinarily depend on private charity, was the worst and the former, being very poor, felt the pinch most acutely. For the ordinary recipient of private charity, where private charity was exhausted, gratuitous relief was afforded, so that the apprehended general scarcity was quietly tided over, and the district did not experience anything of the proportion of a famine."<sup>1</sup>

### Droughts of 1918 and 1949

There were not many years of acute scarcity after 1897. The first decade of the present century was a period of droughts occurring frequently due to scanty rainfall. The year 1918 witnessed

1. Balasore District Gazetteer, 1907, pp. 102-103.

one of the severest years. The distress that came was acute. The district was again affected by drought in 1949 and Bant, Basudebpur, Similia, Soro, Singla, Baliapal and Bhograi police-stations were largely affected.

### **Droughts of 1954 and 1965**

In 1954, the rainfall was only 32.61 inches. How acute could be the condition of the drought and the fate of the crop due to this low rainfall could be imagined from the rainfall in the district in 1865 (the Na-Anka famine year) which was 52.60 inches. Nearly 4,25,500 acres out of the total cropped areas of 9,39,393 acres were affected by severe drought involving a population of 11,06,012 of the district. The average out-turn of crop was 6 *annas*, i. e., 37.5 per cent though in certain pockets it was even 4 *annas*, i. e., 25 per cent.

During the early period of monsoons of 1965, the rainfall in most parts of the district was so insufficient that the agricultural operations could not be carried on properly. Towards the latter part rains intensified but this was untimely and excessive, causing floods in the Bhadrak subdivision and damaging the standing crop by submersion. In north Baleshwar, the late rains could do no good to the crops which gave poor yield. In fact, with the late rains the impression that the crops regenerated themselves was created by what was really an abundance of straw bearing chaff.

### **Drought of 1979-80**

During the year 1979 there was practically no pre-monsoon rain in most of the districts of the state. In this district also monsoon started late and the rainfall was erratic. There was a shortage of 0.5 per cent, 62 per cent, 39 per cent, 25 per cent, and 28.8 per cent of rainfall than the normal in the months of April, May, June, July and August, 1979, respectively. As a result agricultural work hampered and there was drought which affected 209 Grama Panchayats of 19 C. D. Blocks. In all these Grama-Panchayats, there was a crop loss of 25 to 49 per cent.

### **Drought of 1982**

Due to inadequate rainfall there was a severe drought during Kharif. Out of 4353 villages, 1758 villages sustained crop loss of 50 per cent and more.

**ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FISHERIES**

**(i) Animal Husbandry**

Before independence there was not much of veterinary/animal husbandry activities in the district. There was only one Veterinary Dispensary at Baleshwar town. A District Veterinary Office was opened at Baleshwar in December, 1952 consequent on reorganisation of the Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department. The office of the Chief District Veterinary Officer started functioning from 1-7-1983. He is now assisted in office work, administration and supervision of animal husbandry activities by four Assistant District Veterinary Officers belonging to different disciplines at district level and by three Subdivisional Veterinary Officers at subdivisional level.

The district possesses a considerable livestock asset. Animal husbandry avocation has become a major programme because of its potentiality to generate employment and income, both to farming and non-farming households. Lower capital investment and quick return are the factors responsible for making animal husbandry programme popular among the rural families. Agriculture alone cannot improve the economic condition of the rural poor because the district which depends upon monsoon for agriculture is visited regularly by flood, drought and cyclone. Therefore livestock and poultry development schemes are an eventual scope of development in the district.

The success of animal husbandry programme largely depends upon necessary infrastructure, availability of fodder, concentrate feed together with proper marketing support of livestock products. Much emphasis has been placed already on these but in comparison to Government intention and needs of people, efforts undertaken so far are not adequate.

Detailed livestock position in the district as per 1982 Livestock Census is given below:

		No. in lakhs
Cattle	..	12.63
Buffalo	..	0.18
Sheep	..	0.10
Goat	..	4.18
Pigs	..	1.64
Poultry	..	5.32

Most of the above livestock are of non-descriptive type and are maintained with minimum care and attention. The farmers can hardly pay proper attention towards nutrition and hygiene of their animals. As a result, though the population of the district is quite substantial, the over-all livestock production in terms of milk, meat, eggs, etc., is far below the desired level. The average milk production of a local cow is about 250 ml. per day. Buffaloes, however, give a little more milk than cows. To provide health care to the livestock, there were in 1986, 31 Veterinary Dispensaries and 193 Livestock Aid Centres against 4 and 7 respectively in 1952-53, and only one Veterinary Hospital in 1931-32.

In the early thirties some improvement in the poor stock of the cattle was sought to be affected in the towns and a few places in rural areas by crossing the local breeds with bulls imported from up-country. But in order to bring about genetic improvement in the local cattle and buffalo population, for enhancement of milk production, cross breeding the local cows with exotic Jersey bulls has been introduced through artificial insemination in the recent past. There are 3 Key Village Blocks and 115 A. I. (Artificial Insemination) Centres in the district. But out of these, frozen semen A. I. is done at one unit and in the rest 114 centres A. I. is done with chilled semen. There are 2 semen collection centres at Bhadrak and Baleshwar for supply of chilled semen to the A. I. centres. To make the A. I. programme successful, lots of extension activities and motivation are to be undertaken along with castration of scrub bulls. During the three years 1983-84 to 1985-86, A. I. has been done in 57,676 cases, but the number of progenies born was 23,235 which gives an overall average success of 40 per cent. During the same period, A. I. by frozen semen gave a success of about 49 per cent (out of 660 A. I. done in the frozen semen unit at Baleshwar, 320 progenies were born).

Paddy being the major crop in the district, paddy straw is available as the staple roughage all the year round for the cattle and buffaloes. There is acute shortage of green fodder. Fodder demonstration plots are raised in some of the veterinary institutions where land is available for demonstration as well as to supply slips and roots to the interested farmers. Besides seasonal fodder seeds like M. P. Chari, maize, cowpea, barseem, etc., are supplied to a few beneficiaries both in Kharif and Rabi. In spite of efforts made in all settlements to reserve lands for pasturage and the statutory provision in the Orissa Government Land Settlement Act, 1962, to reserve at least 5 per cent of effective area of a village as Gochar, cultivation has encroached

upon the grazing lands for many years past, particularly so after independence and abolition of zamindaries. So the cattle have to be content with dry stubble of the fields and such scanty herbage as the road sides, river banks, tank beds and the field ridges could afford. The situation is not likely to improve unless fodder cultivation is taken up in large scale in farmers' fields individually or in community lands through co-operative efforts of the villagers. The availability of balanced concentrates feed is also very much lacking in the district. Though there is a feed mixing plant at Remuna, it is not in a position to supply the demand of the public because the plant is of a small capacity. In the past the use of concentrate feed in the district was negligible because the milch cow population were of local type and poor yielders which could barely nurse their offspring for which no feed was given. But in the recent past, with introduction of high yielding cross cows, the demand for feed has gone up. Hence to cope up with the situation the capacity of the feed plant at Remuna needs to be increased. Milk production in the district is quite insufficient to meet the demands of Bhadrak and Baleshwar towns. A considerable quantity of milk is transported to the towns from nearby C. D. Blocks of Bahanaga, Soro, Basudebpur, Tihiri and Chandbali. Milk marketing facilities have been provided through organising Primary Milk producing co-operative societies linked to District Milk Union at Baleshwar. A chilling plant of 2000 litres installed capacity has been set up at Baleshwar by the District Milk Union. There are 32 primary societies organised and registered in the district but the Union has not so far been able to collect milk from all the societies due to difficulty in transportation. So a large quantity of milk from Basudebpur, Tihiri and Chandbali areas is being disposed of by farmers in shape of bi-products like cheese and Ghee at low-cost. Therefore, strengthening of the Milk Union has to be thought of for success in dairy development programme.

### **Sheep Development**

According to 1976 Livestock Census, there were only 9,729 sheep in the district and the same has been increased to 10,355 as per 1982 Census. This increase is very marginal and gives an indication that the agro-climatic condition of the district is not very congenial for sheep development.

### **Goat Development**

There has been an increase in goat population in the district from 3.15 lakhs in 1976 to 4.18 lakhs in 1982 Census. Goat rearing has a good prospect in the district. But poor village people are in the

habit of keeping 2 to 3 goats of their own which provide them a good regular income with minimum attention and care. People do not find any problem for marketing since traders often visit rural areas on weekly markets for purchase of goats. Goat can subsist on browsing and can thrive well on tree leaves and grasses. All these factors offer a good scope for goat development in the district by promoting the programme among the weaker section of the community to supplement their income. But as they destroy tree sapplings by browsing, increase in their number is detrimental to any programme of afforestation or tree plantation.

### **Piggery Development**

Tribal people are fond of rearing pigs. They prefer the local breed as they are disease resistant and could be maintained without much managerial skill and special feeding. Such farmers are encouraged for pig rearing through financial assistance and subsidy under Integrated Rural Development and Economic Rehabilitation of Rural Poor Programmes. This activity is limited to Nilagiri subdivision of Baleshwar district. In other parts of the district the usual omnivorous type are bred by the lowest castes called Ghusurias.

### **Poultry Development**

The poultry population in the district was 5.24 lakhs and 5.32 lakhs during 1976 and 1982 Livestock census respectively, thus recording a marginal growth between the two censuses. Practically poultry has not made much headway in the district though there is bright prospects of this sector to develop. Mostly poultry birds are maintained by the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe families in their backyard and the birds are mostly of local breed which are uneconomical.

There are three poultry units in the veterinary dispensaries of Baleshwar, Soro and Nilagiri to meet the demand of hatching eggs of the public. There are a very few commercial layer and broiler units established in the district under private sector through bank finance. There are 2 Primary Poultry co-operative societies in the district.

### **Veterinary Relief**

Rinderpest continues to be the most prevalent disease among the cattle. For rinderpest eradication scheme 11 Livestock Inspectors have been posted. The number of vaccinations done by them are as follows:

1983-84	.. 1,59,946
1984-85	.. 1,19,665
1985-86	.. 1,34,945

Disease control activities of the department during the last three years are given below:

	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
1. No. of animals treated ..	8,93,970	8,92,296	7,78,940
2. No. of preventive .. innoculations done	3,70,524	2,92,944	1,55,071
3. No. of pathological .. specimen examined	17,205	18,952	17,716

## (ii) Fisheries

Fisheries is important not only for its high unit value but also for improving the rural economy and for providing gainful employment to a large section of the rural population. As in the field of agriculture and animal husbandry, the last two and a half decades have also witnessed great progress in the field of fisheries in the country. In Orissa, however, though some progress has been achieved in exploiting demersal resources of the sea, progress in inland fisheries and in tapping pelagic resources of the sea has not been very substantial when considered against its potentiality. Fishing may be broadly divided into three categories, viz., (a) Marine (b) Inland and (c) Brackish water. In Orissa all the three categories are present with immense potentialities. The district of Baleshwar is also very rich in the resources of all the three categories.

### Marine

The district of Baleshwar has a coastline of 130 km. starting from Dhamra on the south to Udayapur on the north out of a total 488 km. of coastline in Orissa. This coastline is very much rich in pelagic resources. The marine fisherman population of the district is around 84,000 with 30,000 active fishermen, as per survey conducted by the Fisheries department in 1981. The coastline is dotted with 23 numbers of ice plants and cold storages on both private and public sectors. There are also 24 landing bases on the coastline where around 21,000 tonnes of marine fish is landed annually out of a total landing of 46,000 tonnes in the state. The boat-side value of these marine fishes in the district come to around 150 million rupees. The major landing bases are at Dhamra, Chudamani, Chandipur, Kasafal and Talasari where about 360 mechanised boats and around 2,500 traditional boats are operating.

Fishery department introduced mechanised fishing for the first time in the district in the year 1962 and in the same year also nylon was introduced which replaced the traditional cotton twine for



making fishing nets. The efficiency and longevity of the nylon is about 3 to 4 times more than the traditional cotton twine. It has since acted as a catalyst for development of marine fisheries by:

- (1) encouraging interested entrepreneurs for speedy mechanisation and establishment of ice plants and cold storages by arranging institutional finance for them and providing subsidy,
- (2) providing better harbouring, mooring and repairing facilities,
- (3) imparting marine training to fishermen boys with stipend,
- (4) operating a few trawlers and gill-netters at Chandipur for survey, investigation of resources and diversification of fishing methods, and
- (5) encouraging mechanised fishing through co-operative societies, etc.

The department has constructed two ice plants with cold storage facilities at Chandipur and Chandbali for supply of ice to the private fishermen at reasonable cost. A concrete 'T' jetty with approach road, diesel outlet, drinking water facility was constructed at a cost of Rs. 15 lakhs at Chandipur with funds provided by Government of India for landing base for mechanised and traditional vessels. But this jetty is not used by the fishermen as they find it more convenient for landing their fish in the traditional fishing base at Balaramgadi. At Chandipur 30 fishermen boys are annually trained with a monthly stipend of Rs. 75/- per trainee for a period of ten months. Harbouring facilities and approach road at a cost of Rs. 11 lakhs have been provided at Chudamani fish landing base in Basudebpur C. D. Block. Government of India have established a fishing harbour at Dhamra which is the only fishing harbour in the state. This harbour was opened in 1978 and it provides facilities like landing-quay, slipway, workshop, auction hall, etc. It has been designed to accommodate 200 mechanised vessels besides catering to the needs of nearly 300 traditional crafts of both Baleshwar and Cuttack districts. At present 52 mechanised trawlers and gill-netters avail the facilities at Dhamra. The annual landings of the harbour is nearly 5000 tonnes and it is expected that it will increase three-fold during a couple of years. At present there are two ice plants with cold storage facility on private sector at Dhamra. A road has been constructed to connect Dhamra fishing harbour with the National Highway No. 5, covering a distance of about 60 km. for transport of fish to Calcutta by road and rail. But a part of the road from Basudebpur to Dhamra often gets inundated and breached during high flood. It has not yet been constructed fully. Therefore the objective of fishing harbour to

provide remunerative price to the poor fishermen has not been fully achieved. The department has established three marine fishermen co-operative societies with institutional finance and subsidy by providing boats, engines, fishing gears, and managerial and technical staff. These societies are :

(1) Maa-Dhamrai Marine Fishermen Co-operative Society which operates 20 numbers of thirty-two-footer trawlers at Dhamara and engages 100 fishermen at Dhamara area.

(2) Rajlaxmi Fishermen Co-operative Society which operates 40 Gill-netters at Chandipur and engages 200 fishermen of the locality.

(3) Kirtania Fishermen Co-operative Society which operates 23 Gill-netters at Talasari and engages 115 fishermen of Bhograi areas.

There are also nearly 27 numbers of small marine fishermen co-operative societies in the district which have been helped by various ways in shape of institutional finance and subsidy from government.

The Orissa Marine Fishing Regulation Act., 1981 has been introduced since 1984 with a view to regulating fishing by fishing vessels in the sea along the coastline under which all mechanised and traditional boats are to be registered with the Fishery department on payment of some annual license fees. Delimitation of zones have been marked for traditional, small mechanised and bigger mechanised crafts which are rarely observed by mechanised trawlers due to inadequate enforcing machinery.

**Foreign aided scheme—**An around Integrated Fisheries Development Scheme with assistance from NORAD (Norwegian Assistance for International Development) is in operation in the district from 1986-87. The investment of NORAD will be around 80 million rupees. The scheme will help four Grama Panchayats of Sadar C.D. Block. The scheme envisages (1) berthing and harbour facilities at Kasafal fishing base, (2) all-weather road to the fishing base, (3) provision of medical care amenities in the project area, (4) improvement of education facilities in the project area, (5) drinking water facility in the project area and also in the landing base (6) technological improvement of fishing gear and craft of the traditional sector.

Under the Bay of Bengal Programme, an organisation of F.A.O. funded by SIDA, twenty non-formal education centres have been established in the coastal fishing villages of the district. Under the said scheme improved trawler gears have been tried at Chandipur

and its successful findings have been passed on to the private sector, as a result of which many private trawlers are now using high opening trawl nets for more catches.

To monitor and execute implementation of the above marine schemes a class I officer of the rank of Deputy Director, Fisheries, is stationed at Baleshwar. He is assisted by one Assistant Director of Fisheries and six Extension Officers. There are 3 Assistant Directors in-charge of three co-operative societies mentioned above.

Inland—Except Nilagiri and Oupada C. D. Blocks, the entire district of Baleshwar is plain and low-lying for which almost every house-hold has a small pond. Though pisciculture is an age-old practice, regular culture on scientific lines was not in practice because technology was not adequately developed and available to the fish farmers. They adopted wild culture and production was as low as 250 kg. per acre per annum, whereas scientific pisciculture proved that production can be at least 600 kg. per acre per annum. The survey report by the Fisheries department has revealed that there were about 4,427 hectares of water area available in 19 C.D. Blocks of the district to take up pisciculture. This area is confined to 23,385 tanks of Grama Panchayats, Revenue department and private persons. The survey also indicates that 3,590 hectares of water area is feasible to take up pisciculture on modern scientific method. Bulk of this water area are in derilict and semi-derilict condition. To adopt scientific pisciculture through modern technology financial assistance for improvement of the water area and for supply of fish seed feed, etc., is necessary. For development of inland fisheries a Fish Farmers Development Agency (FFDA) with World Bank assistance with Collector as Chairman and Fishery Officer of the rank of Assistant Director of Fisheries as Chief Executive Officer was set up in 1977-78. The Chief Executive Officer is supported by five Superintendents of Fisheries, one Assistant Engineer and two Junior Engineers. Its main objects are:

- (1) to cover available water area under modern pisciculture practice.
- (2) to make available institutional finance to the fish farmers with necessary subsidy from the Agency.
- (3) to prepare plan and estimate for renovation and excavation of tanks and to supervise the work through the technical staff.
- (4) to impart technical know-how to the fish farmers through the extension agency set up in each C. D. Block.

(5) to train the fish farmers for scientific management of the culturable water area and also to train interested entrepreneurs on induced breeding of the Indian Major carps (Catla, Rohi, and Mrigal) and Exotic carps (Silver carps, Grass carp and Cy. Carpio).

This Agency also monitors family oriented poverty eradication schemes under IRD/ERRP relating to inland pisciculture. By the end of 1985-86 it has given assistance to 7,072 beneficiaries besides covering 1,733 beneficiaries under ERRP and IRDP. 8,543 numbers of tanks covering 2,204 hectares of water area have been covered under scientific pisciculture through FFDA. To supply improved seeds of major carps to the pisciculturists, the department has got three fish-seed distribution centres in the district, viz., (1) Digha fish farm at Baleshwar town, (2) Bhadrak fish seed farm at Bhadrak town, (3) Randia fish farm near Bhadrak town. At present fish seed is supplied at the rate of Rs. 50 per 1,000 fries excluding the cost of packing and transport. The department sells nearly 35 lakhs of fish seed on an average annually to different fish farmers. There are also 8 fish farmers in the district who produce induced bred fish seed to the extent of 30 lakhs for sale to public. Private traders from west Bengal also sell fish fries in the district as the department is unable to supply the demand. The Orissa Fish Seed Development Corporation has established one fish seed hatchery at Sarabhanga, 7 km. from Bhadrak with World Bank assistance. The hatchery started producing fish seed from 1985-86 and it produced about 20 lakhs of fish seed for supply to the different fish farmers in the district. It is projected that this hatchery will produce nearly ten billion of fish seed for supply to different fish farmers of the district and also to the neighbouring districts. The demand of fish fry in the district is around 180 lakhs and with the present available infrastructure facilities the district can produce 135 lakhs of fish seeds. The present inland fish production in the district is around 2,000 tonnes and its approximate farm site value is around Rs. 30 millions.

To monitor and execute different normal and developmental schemes in the inland sector there is one Assistant Director of Fisheries with headquarters at Baleshwar. Each of the 19 C. D. Blocks is provided with one Fishery Extension Officer supported by one Fishery Demonstrator.

**Brackish Water**—Until recently fishing in brackish water, like fishing in the sea, was confined to capture fishing. Culture fishing in brackish water has assumed great importance in recent years dominantly featured by prawn farming. From the resources inventory survey undertaken by the Department of Fisheries it is estimated that around 17,000 hectares of low-lying brackish water

area is suitable for development of fin and shell fish farming in the state, out of a total resources of 31,618 hectares of such area. The survey indicates that in the district of Baleshwar out of 3,236 hectares of brackish water area, approximately 2,560 hectares are feasible to undertake coastal aquaculture. To develop the coastal aquaculture in the state with emphasis on prawn culture in the low-lying areas close to the sea-shore the State Government have established one Brackish Water Fisheries Development Agency in Baleshwar (SFDA) in the year 1983 with the Collector, Baleshwar, as the Chairman and a Fishery Officer of the rank of Assistant Director of Fisheries as Chief Executive Officer. The aims and objects of the Agency are as follows :

(1) to survey the resources available in the district to take up coastal aquaculture.

(2) select sites for taking up brackish water fish-cum-prawn culture through the target group.

(3) to encourage the private parties to take up coastal aquaculture in their own land and also taking lease of the government land. The Agency will select land and fix up entrepreneurs and arrange lease from the Revenue authority.

(4) to organise co-operative society to take up prawn culture on co-operative basis.

(5) to train entrepreneurs and fish farmers in the modern way of prawn and brackish water fish culture, identification of economic varieties of prawn, collection of prawn seed from the natural resources and their transport to the fish farmers.

(6) to select beneficiaries to take up prawn culture with BFDA subsidy and other assistance.

(7) to give overall technical guidance for prawn and brackish water pisciculture.

The Agency has so far helped 165 beneficiaries and developed 60 hectares of water areas for development of brackish water fish, including prawn. Under IRD/ERRP it has also helped 118 beneficiaries to take up prawn culture in 27 hectares of water area and has trained 217 beneficiaries on brackish water aquaculture method in collaboration with MPEDA (Marine Products Export Development Authority), a Government of India undertaking.

**IMPORTANCE OF FOREST IN THE ECONOMY OF THE DISTRICT**

Excepting Nilagiri subdivision, there is no natural forest worth the name in the district of Baleshwar. Forest in Nilagiri range chiefly constitutes the species like Sal, Piasal, Asan, Sisoo, Bandhan, Dhaura, Arjun, Gambhari and other miscellaneous species. The important major forest produce of the district are timber and firewood. But considering the size of its population, forest in the district fails to meet the growing demand of the people and the district to a large extent has to depend upon the neighbouring district of Kendujhar especially for timber. However, the role of the forest in sizing the economy of the district can never be ruled out in so far as the local people depend upon the forest for making agricultural implements, house building materials and fuel.

The major items of minor forest produce are the Mohua flower and seed, Sal leaves, myrabolans, tamarind, nux vomica, Sunari bark, tussar, oil-seeds, stone, ballast, chips, etc.

Black granite chips are an important source of revenue as huge quantities of chips are being supplied to the railway. Long term leases have also been granted by Government to the contractors.

Forest generates employment potentialities for the local people. In connection with various forest works, such as, road work, chips cutting, plantation of trees and in other operations like felling, logging, loading and transport of timber, etc., labourers are in great demand by the government as well as by the contractors.

Income accrued in rupees to the district from major and minor forest produces of the district during last four years, i. e., from 1981-82 to 1984-85 is furnished in the following table.

Year	Timber	Firewood	Minor forest produce including stone quarry	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1981-82	11,85,566	11,94,190	1,61,782	25,41,538
1982-83	13,72,196	4,51,214	1,15,075	19,38,485
1983-84	44,27,174	31,27,501	1,45,896	77,00,571
1984-85	18,65,850	7,97,000	1,74,111	28,36,961

# APPENDIX I LIST OF RIVER EMBANKMENTS

Name of River (1)	Left/ Right (2)	Name of Embankments (3)	Length in km. (4)
<b>(A) Baleshwar Irrigation Division</b>			
<b>(i) Capital Embankment</b>			
Subarnarekha	Left	Flood guard embankment	6.50
Subarnarekha	Left	Bhograi Embankment (from Batagan to Rankatha)	23.50
		Total	30.00
<b>(ii) Orissa Agricultural Embankment</b>			
Subarnarekha	Left	Khaljori side Embankment	3.50
Subarnarekha	Right	Darabudhi Embankment	4.50
Subarnarekha	Right	Palapada Embankment	4.50
Subarnarekha	Right	Machharanka Embankment	1.00
Hanskura	Left	Panchupali Embankment	5.00
Subarnarekha	Right	Jamkunda Embankment	3.00
Subarnarekha	Right	Bodas Embankment	1.00
Subarnarekha	Right	Baliapal Embankment	2.00
Jalaka	Right	Mathani-Motasol Jalaka embankment	4.20

(contd.)

Burhabalanga	Left	Dumudo Embankment	..	3.50
Burhabalanga	Right	Gabagan Chargachhia Embankment	..	4.00
Burhabalanga	Right	Kantabania Embankment	..	2.00
Sone	Right	Mohantyparha Embankment	..	3.50
Samei	Right	Chudamani Flood Embankment	..	2.50
Matai	Left	Road-cum-Embankment of Parapokhari cuts		16.30
Kansbans	Right	Bedpur Kabipur Embankment	..	6.50
		Total	..	67.00

(B) Salandi Canal Division

(i) Capital Embankment

Salandi

Right	Capital Embankment No. 2, Salandi Right	..	20.00
	Total	..	20.00

(ii) Orissa Agricultural Embankment

Salandi

Left & Right	O. A. Embankment No. a, b, c, below Rajghat Salandi left and right	..	15.00
	Total	..	15.00

(C) Jajpur Irrigation Division

(i) Capital Embankment

Baitarani

Kapali and Reb

Left	C. E. No. 5 (b) A	..	10.00
Right	C. E. No. 4 A	..	6.00
	Total	..	16.00

(contd.)



Name of river (1)	Left/ Right (2)	Name of Embankments (3)	Length in Km. (4)
<b>(ii) Orissa Agricultural Embankment</b>			
Genguti	Right	O. A. E. No. 10 B	8.50
Genguti	Left	O. A. E. No. 9 B	5.50
Genguti	Left	O. A. E. No. 8 B	4.50
Baitarani	Left	O. A. E. No. 6(a) B	5.45
Baitarani	Left	O. A. E. No. 6 (b. c. d.) B, Baitarani Left.	10.50
		Total	34.45
<b>GENERAL ABSTRACT</b>			
* (i) Capital Embankment		..	66.00 km.
** (ii) Orissa Agricultural Embankment		..	116.45 km.
(iii) Saline Embankment		..	175.00 km.
(iv) Test Relief Embankment		..	332.07 km.
<b>LIST OF SALINE EMBANKMENT</b>			
<b>(A) Baleshwar Irrigation Division</b>			
Subarnarekha	Left	Mahasaya Saline Embankment	1.00
Subarnarekha	Left	Matikencha Saline Embankment	1.00
Subarnarekha	Left	Bhangamuhan Saline Embankment	4.00

\* Capital Embankments have top width of 16 feet.

\*\* Orissa Agricultural Embankments have top width of 12 feet.

(Contd.)

Subarnarekha	Right	Nangudi Saline Embankment	2-00
Panchpara	Right	Solpata Bahabampur Saline Embankment	14-00
Kantichira	Right	Inchudi Saline Embankment	6-00
Kantichira	Right	Talapada Saline Embankment	2-00
Gamai	Left	Aduhan to Mohanpur Saline Embankment	15-50
Gamai	Right	Chudamani to Bijayapatna Saline Embankment	22-50
Dhamara	Left	Bijayapatna to Dhamara Saline Embankment	33-00
		Baithkola to Choudhury Ghat Saline Embankment	9-00
		Total	110-00



(B) Salandi Canal Division

Salandi	Left	Parmanandapur to Chardia and Chardia to Haripur Gherry	39-00
Salandi	Left & Right	Galia guide bank left and right	8-00
Salandi	..	Bahu Haripur Road-cum-Salt Embankment	11-00
		Jantuali Biradia Salt Embankment	7-00
		Total	65-00

(Concl'd.)

Sl. No.	Name of the test relief embankment	Length in km.
(1)	(2)	(3)
<b>(A) Baleshwar Irrigation Division</b>		
1.	Gobaraghat Test Relief Embankment	0.50
2.	Rairamchandrapur Test Relief Embankment	1.00
3.	Balikbad to Chitimisur Test Relief Embankment	0.50
4.	Baiganbadia Test Relief Embankment	0.50
5.	Sakhbad Test Relief Embankment	2.20
6.	Ektali to Rairamchandrapur	1.00
7.	Asti-Purulia Test Relief Embankment	0.50
8.	Asti to Radhapal Test Relief Embankment	0.20
9.	Goutia-Purulia Test Relief Embankment	5.00
10.	Raghunathpur Garsahi, Baliapal Test Relief Embankment	1.00
11.	Jataka Test Relief Embankment	
	(i) Dudhia T. R. Embankment	2.30
	(ii) Sonakhai Test Relief Embankment	0.35
	(iii) Chamkasia Test Relief Embankment	0.30
	(iv) Sapua Test Relief Embankment	0.30
	(v) Ganju Test Relief Embankment	0.20
	(vi) Dara Test Relief Embankment	0.30
	(vii) Bajbaje Test Relief Embankment	0.20
	(viii) Duarsuni Test Relief Embankment	0.50
12.	Kasaba Test Relief Embankment	2.80
13.	Banktia Test Relief Embankment	1.00
14.	Jagannathpur-Kathasagada Test Relief Embankment	4.00
15.	Sapaurpur Flood Embankment	6.00
16.	Brahmana Sabina Test Relief Embankment	4.00
17.	Road on Saline Embankment Bhamna to Bansada	9.00
18.	Dhamara to Ranapura Test Relief Embankment	4.50
19.	Chaumukha Saline Embankment	6.00
20.	Almada and Palbudhi Test Relief Embankment	1.20
21.	Badadhandari to Asuridina Test Relief Embankment	2.75

(Contd.)

Sl. No. (1)	Name of the test relief embankment (2)	Length in km. (3)
22.	Sandandari Test Relief Saline Embankment	1.00
23.	Panchpara to Kasafal Test Relief Saline Embankment	8.00
24.	Pariskhi Saline Embankment	3.00
25.	Bansdiha to Abhana Test Relief Embankment	2.00
26.	Salpata-Kasafal Test Relief Saline Embankment on Panchpara Right	9.00
27.	Jamakunda to Ikadapal Test Relief Saline Embankment on Subarnarekha right	6.00
28.	Ulluda Khalabadia T. R. E. on Subarnarekha Left	7.00
29.	Chudamani Suan Test Relief Embankment on Gamai Left,	6.00
30.	Chargochhia Balaramgadi T. R. Saline Embankment on Burhabalang Right,	12.00
31.	Reb Baiganbadia T. R. E. on Subarnarekha Left	6.00
32.	Dakhina Praharajpur Tikayatpur T. R. Embankment on Subarnarekha Right	10.00
33.	Patuka Sasan T. R. E. on Burhabalanga Left	0.30
34.	Raghunathpur-Bakhadabad T. R. Embankment on Burhabalanga Left	0.30
35.	T. R. E. from Chakulia to Ghungi on Sone left	0.30
36.	Lakshmannath Pirahat T. R. E. on Subarnarekha Left	1.50
37.	Nilda T. R. Saline Embankment, Nilda creek of Burhabalanga	4.00
38.	Patnas-Parikhi T. R. Saline Embankment on a creek of Burhabalanga	4.00
39.	Sartha T. R. Saline Embankment on right bank of Sartha (Panchpara)	9.00
40.	Mahulia T. R. E. on Subarnarekha Right	1.50
41.	Sartha T. R. Saline Embankment on Left Bank of Sartha (Panchpara)	8.00
42.	Chitimishra to Rela T. R. E. on Subarnarekha Left	3.50

(Contd.)

Sl. No. (1)	Name of the test relief embankment (2)	Length in km. (3)
43.	Kunduli to Mahapada T. R. Saline Embankment on both sides of Kunduli.	5.00
44.	Kuladi to Badadhandari T. R. Saline Embankment on Panchpara Left	3.00
45.	Sahada to Agarada T. R. Saline Embankment on left of Baradia creek of Panchpara	2.00
46.	Ambo T. R. E. on Right Bank of Ambo Nalla (Tributary of river Kansbans)	1.00
47.	Pinchabania-Khadkhadia T. R. Saline Embankment on left bank of Pinchhabania Nalla (Tributary Panchpara)	2.00
48.	Atapur T. R. E. on right of Sapua	1.00
49.	Hatinunda T. R. E. on Kansbans Left	0.25
50.	Dumuria to Balda T. R. E. Saline Embankment on Burhabalanga left	1.00
51.	Raim T. R. E. on Sapua Left	0.30
52.	Baharda T. R. Saline Embankment on both sides of Baharda creek of Burhabalanga	5.00
53.	Gobardhanpur Kothisahi T. R. E. on Subarnarekha Left	2.50
54.	Gadelsagar T. R. Saline Embankment on the left sea beach of Bay of Bengal	1.75
55.	Khandia Muhan to Khaparamuhan T. R. Saline Embankment on left of Kantiachina	3.00
56.	Sekhbazar to Sekhasaral T. R. E. on Subarnarekha Left	6.00
57.	Nuagan Kainfulia T. R. Saline Embankment on both sides of Kainfulia creek of Burhabalanga	3.00
58.	Chaulti T. R. Saline Embankment near Hanskura mouth (500 m. from seashore)	2.50

(Contd.)

SI No,	Name of the test relief embankment	Length in km.
(1)	(2)	(3)
59.	Ambulkud T. R. E. on Burhabalanga Left	1.00
60.	Kalyani T. R. E. on right of Bansa Nalla (tributary Kansbans)	0.30
61.	Panchpara to Panchpara-Gochar T. R. saline Embankment on left of Panchpara creek of Panchpara river	3.00
62.	Barensing to Kuligan T. R. E. on right of Malanalla (tributary of Kansbans)	2.50
Total ..		206.80
<b>(B) Salandi Canal Division</b>		
1.	T. R. Embankment on Kaudia Jor left and right	5.00
2.	T. R. Embankment on Matei right	7.50
3.	T. R. Embankment on Nunajore left and right	9.50
4.	T. R. Embankment on Khandha and Kandiapal	3.00
5.	Improvement to existing T. R. Embankment from Chandbali to Hengupati via Tintan under Chandbali block	26.0
		50.00
<b>(C) Jajpur Irrigation Division</b>		
1.	T. R. E. from Karkar to Raghunathpur	2.62
2.	T. R. Embankment from Swainpatna to Maninathpur	4.60
3.	T. R. Embankment from Athagadia to Arjunpur	2.67
4.	Gandhighat T. R. E. from Samalpur to Sundarpur	7.35
5.	Podnak Tintar Salt Embankment	9.00
6.	Brahmanipal Badabandha T. R. Embankment	2.00
7.	T. R. E. from Nadigan to Phalapur	1.61
8.	T. R. E. from Mandula to Talastak	7.32

(Contd.)

(Contd.)

Sl. No. (1)	Name of the Test relief embankment (2)	Length in km. (3)
9.	T. R. E. from Ramasukula to Hasnabad	9.36
10.	Talastak Gandhighat T. R. E. on Baitarani Left	..
11.	Hasnabad to Gandhighat L. T. R. E. on Kochila Right	..
12.	Nadigan-Phalpur T. R. E. on Kandia Right	2.50
13.	Tampala-Sorisahi T. R. E. on Reb Right	2.50
14.	Kalyannagari T. R. E. on Reb Left	1.00
15.	Karanji-Gunupur T. R. E. on Reb Left	2.00
16.	Nenjara-Adibundh T. R. E. on Reb Left	2.00
17.	Jaguleisahi-Kusuma T. R. E. on Reb Right	5.50
18.	Govindapur T. R. E. on Reb Left	1.00
19.	Korua T. R. E. on Kapali Right	1.00
20.	Sahidnagar T. R. E. on Nalia Left	1.00
Total		65.07

सत्यमेव जयते

## CHAPTER V

### INDUSTRIES

#### OLD-TIME INDUSTRIES

Various industries in cottage sector have flourished in the district since generations. Weaving, pottery, brass and bell-metal work, processing of cereals and pulses, carpentry and blacksmithy, stone carving, cane and bamboo work, salt manufacture, etc., were the most reputed categories of industries. The artisans who produced these articles formed, for centuries, an integral part of the village community, being paid largely in kind and in some cases, holding lands towards remuneration for the services rendered to individuals or community as the case may be. Competition of cheap machine-made goods as well as various administrative discriminatory measures adopted by the British destroyed their prosperity. As a result, most of those cottage industries are lying in a moribund condition. We get a good picture of the old-time industries of the district, from the following account given by O' Malley in the Balasore District Gazetteer, published in 1907.

"The importance formerly attaching to Balasore as an industrial centre may be gauged by the fact that in the 17th century it contained the factories of no less than five European nations. The Portuguese, the Dutch, the Danes, the French and the English. The chief settlement of the English was in Balasore town. But they also had subordinate factories at Bhadrak, Soro and Balaramgadi around which weaver colonies gathered. The fine cotton cloths and muslins produced by their looms formed the chief articles of commerce and frequent mention was made in the earlier records of the English of the Balasore "Sannoas" and "Cussayas" as these fabrics were called. With the general dislocation of trade caused by the Maratha raids the industry appears to have languished and it did not revive when the Pax Britanica was introduced."

In a report submitted by the Faujdar of Baleshwar in 1761, we find, rice, iron and stone plates referred to as the principal exports and cotton cloths were not mentioned, while Stirling, writing in 1822, has left it on record that "the manufactures and trade of Orissa proper are very inconsiderable and unimportant. A sufficiency of the coarser cloths is made for the use of the inhabitants in all parts of the district. The calicoes of Balasore, Soro, Bhadrak, Janjipur and Hariharpur were once prized and sought after under the name of Sannahs, but the demand for the finer fabrics of that description having long since declined the quantity now manufactured is very trifling".



Apart from the cotton weaving, silk weaving constituted small industry. The only kind of silk manufactured was *tusser*. It was carried on by weaver families who lived in the northern part of the district in the villages Patpur and Raibania, and a few inhabitants of the village Purusanda in Bhadrak subdivision.

In the north, the weavers were not confined to any particular caste. In Bhadrak subdivision the weavers were known as Bengali Tania who migrated from Bengal and settled down in this district many years ago. The silk weavers purchased *tusser* cocoons from the neighbouring ex-states of Mayurbhanj and Kendujhar. The articles manufactured were sold mostly in the district. The products of the local looms could not compete with the cheaper machine-made articles of British though the local handloom products were much more durable.

Besides the weaving industry, there were two other important industries, namely, salt manufacture and ship-building. Salt in fact was the largest export of the district at that time. The manufacture of salt gave employment to a large number of people. Saltpetre was in great demand for gun powder. British Government, therefore, established a monopoly in the salt manufacture. The finest salt of all India, says A. Stirling, was manufactured in the wild inhospitable tract along the sea-board and yielded annually to the East India Company a net revenue falling little short of 18 lakhs of rupees. The monopoly system was abolished in 1862-63, but salt-making continued for many years later to be the staple manufacture of the district. In 1875-76, nearly 7,400 tonnes (200,000 maunds) were manufactured.

During 19th century the manufacture and sale of salt was quite a profitable business. But in course of time this trade could not prosper. Recently, the State Government decided to take up the salt manufacture but it was not executed and finally it was entrusted to OMCAD (Orissa Maritime and Chilka Area Development Corporation Ltd.) in October 1978. The Project Model Salt Farm at Churamani was first taken over by OMCAD covering an area of 41.71 hectares (103.09 acres) with a view to manufacture salt on commercial basis and develop salt manufacturing unit in rural areas and to meet the requirement of salt in Basudebpur Tahasil in particular and Baleshwar district in general.

The salt farm is situated on the bank of river Gamai in Basudebpur Tahasil. The salt field is situated at a distance of 5 km. from the village Eram. The period of procurement of salt was from December to May depending on varied climatic conditions. The unit started

its production from 1979-80. But, frequent natural calamities like cyclone and heavy rainfall during the years 1982-83 and 1983-84 caused great loss to the corporation. In the year 1985-86 only 600 tonnes of salt was produced, out of which only 100 tonnes of salt were sold. Remaining 500 tonnes were washed away by heavy rainfall. From 1978-79 to 1987-88 the total income from the trade was Rs. 0.82 lakhs whereas the expenditure was Rs. 7.56 lakhs. Therefore, keeping this in view the entire unit had to be stopped.

This immediate ceasing of salt unit naturally had some repercussions on the economic condition of the people in Baleshwar.

The industry of shipbuilding was in existence in Baleshwar for a long time. Saista Khan before launching out his expedition to Chittagong had ordered Khan-i-Duran, the Subedar of Orissa, to manufacture ships in Baleshwar port. Cartwright had founded the factory at Baleshwar, being invited by Mir Kasim, who is described as Governor of, 'a town called Ballasserye, a sea town where shipping was built', and in Bruton's account Baleshwar has been described as "a great sea town, where to much shipping belonged".

Other two old-time industries of the district are the bell-metal industry of Remuna and stoneware works of Mangalpur and Nilagiri which are still surviving though in a decadent condition. Among some minor industries mention may be made of mat making, rope twining from jute and coconut fibre, baskets of reed and bamboo, earthenware and gunny bags. Gunny bags were formerly made in large number near Chandbali, but they were replaced by the cheap articles from Calcutta. Brass ware and bell-metal utensils of all descriptions including heavy brass ornaments for women were made by the local braziers, chiefly at Baleshwar. But the manufacture declined owing to the import and sale of cheap German silver ornaments.

#### POWER

Introduction of electricity in the district is of recent origin. A joint stock company under the name of Balasore Electric Company Limited undertook the electrification of Baleshwar town in the year 1943. Baleshwar town continued to be the only electrified place in the district for the next 13 years. In the year 1956, the State Government undertook a comprehensive scheme for electrification of small towns and rural areas in the district. In pursuance of that scheme the electrification of Bhadrak town commenced in July, 1956. This was followed by electrification of Chandbali in December, 1956 and Jaleshwar in February, 1957. The transmission lines from Bhadrak power-station was later extended

towards Baleshwar. Markona railway station area was electrified in September, 1957. The electric supply was extended to Soro in April, 1958.

The electric power available was A. C. generated by diesel prime-movers. In course of time all the power houses have been closed and dismantled since hydro-power was made available by the Orissa State Electricity Board. Since 1961 the power generation and distribution is looked after by the Orissa State Electricity Board and the source of power supply are Hirakud hydro power station, through Kuldiha and Betnoti grid sub-stations and Talcher thermal power station through Jajpur Road and Bhadrak (Golpur) grid sub-stations.

All the seven towns of the district, viz., Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Jaleshwar, Soro, Nilagiri, Chandbali and Basudebpur are electrified. Nearly 2,660 villages were electrified till the 31st March, 1986.

#### MINING

Practically there are no mines in the district. But laterite, sandstone, gravel, etc., are quarried for building and road-metalling. The rock, most commonly used for building purposes in the district is laterite.

The laterite blocks cut into different sizes are used in construction of buildings and temples. The pisolite texture in the rock do not allow fine ornamentations as seen in other temples. Slabs from 4 to 5 feet long are easily procurable while the more loose and cuttings commonly called Morum forms of laterite used for road making.

Altered basic rocks locally known as "*muguni*" which is found in the hills near Nilagiri, and at Talmunda and Mangalpur has considerable local demand and is also, at times, having good market at Calcutta. The rock is comparatively compact and found in different colours. Though fairly easy to work, the rock is admirably suited for fine carvings and making pottery. The most general use of this rock at present, however, is for manufacturing of plates, bowls, basins, etc. This is rudely cut into the intended form by the quarrymen on the spot and then the finished products are transported to the markets by the merchants who deal in these articles.

At present a soapstone mine is working in the district at Baulagadia in Nilagiri subdivision. This mine is being worked by Baulagadia Stone Industry Co-operative Society Limited. The Forest department used to grant lease for extraction of soapstone to the society from the sixties treating this mineral to be a minor mineral. This department granted the last lease till the 18th March 1981.

The mining of this mineral is to be undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957. In recent time the Forest department was advised to stop granting further lease for soapstone and the society was asked to obtain a Certificate of Approval and apply for a mining lease under the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957. The society having being constituted of artisans who are traditionally earning their livelihood on the soapstone craft has been granted a mining lease for steatite over an area of 92.32 acres. The Directorate of Mining and Geology, Orissa, has launched a programme for detail assessment of soapstones in the district.

### **Minerals**

The coast of Chandbali is rich in limenite, magnetite, zircon, rutile and minor amounts of monazite, which is a source of thorium. Occurrence of iron-ore, chromite, asbestos and steatite in Nilagiri subdivision of the district has been reported.

In Nilagiri, a few mineral based small scale industries like emery stone and grinding, wheels, some stone chips manufacturing units, etc., have been set up. Besides units like manufacture of hydrated lime, earthenware, pipes, asbestos, cement, etc., have also got potentiality for development.

### **Future Prospects**

So far, no systematic geological investigation has been carried out in this district. But recently the State Government's Mining and Geology department has launched a programme for assessment of economic mineral deposits in this district after which a clear picture of the mineral potentiality can be known.

### **LARGE SCALE INDUSTRIES**

Baleshwar has been declared as an industrially backward district by the Government of India in the year 1983-84. Though it is one of the richest districts in India in agriculture, only one large scale industry has developed in the recent past.

### **Ferro-alloy Corporation Ltd. Charge Chrome Plant**

Situated in D. P. Nagar at about 4 kilometres towards the west of Bhadrak town in the village Randia, the charge chrome plant set up by M/s. Ferro Alloys Corporation Limited is the only heavy industry in the district. It has commenced production since 17th March 1983. This plant was running with a capital investment of Rs. 45.92 crores as on June, 1985. At present 503 persons (both skilled and unskilled) are working in this unit.

The plant produced chargechrome of 30,713, 30,491 and 40,259 tonnes in the year 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86, respectively. The basic raw materials for this industry is chromite, which comes from Baula mines of Kendujhar district and Sukinda valley mines of Cuttack district. It is an export oriented unit and the entire production of the plant is being exported to the countries in Europe and to Japan.

#### **MEDIUM SCALE INDUSTRIES**

A few number of medium scale industries are functioning in this district. These are M/s. Jaikisan Das Mall Jute Products Private Limited, M/s. Bhattar Solvent Extraction Udyog Private Limited, M/s. Emami Paper Mills Private Limited, M/s. Jaiswal Plastic Tube Private Limited, M/s. Multilayer Composites Private Limited and the Orissa Plastics. Details about these industries are discussed below.

#### **M/s. Jaikisan Das Mall Jute Products Pvt. Ltd.**

Established in 1976 at Rupsa, the Jaikisan Das Mall Jute Products Private Limited produces jute twine. The raw materials required by the unit is jute which is being procured from the local market as well as from different districts of the state. The factory was built with a capital investment of rupees 80 lakhs and it has provided employment to 313 persons.

#### **M/s. Bhattar Solvent Extraction Udyog Private Ltd.**

The Bhattar Solvent Extraction Udyog Private Limited has been established at Arad Bazar near Baleshwar in the year 1973 with a capital investment of rupees 35 lakhs. The main product of the unit is rice-bran oil. It gives employment to 60 persons.

#### **M/s. Emami Paper Mills Pvt. Ltd.**

Established in the year 1984, the Emami Paper Mills Pvt. Ltd., is situated at Balgopalpur, and manufactures writing and printing papers from waste paper, straw and Sabai grass. It was established with a capital investment of rupees 250 lakhs and has given employment to 195 persons.

#### **M/s. Jaiswal Plastic Tubes Pvt. Ltd.**

The Jaiswal Plastic Tubes Private Limited was established in the year 1983 at Ganeswarpur. This unit manufactured rigid P. V. C. pipes and fittings. The capital investment of this factory was rupees 126.6 lakhs and it provided employment to 70 persons.

### **M/s Multilayer Composites Private Ltd.**

This unit was also established at Ganeswarpur in the year 1985. It produces co-extruded multilayer plastic films, minigrip plastic bags and flaxo printings. It was established with a capital investment of rupees 85 lakhs and has given employment to 64 persons.

### **M/s. Orissa Plastics**

The Orissa Plastics was established in the year 1966 by the side of the trunk road near Balashwar. Till December 1985, the capital investment was Rs. 75.55 lakhs. The organisation is a partnership firm and is managed by the partners and professional managerial staff. It gives employment to 68 persons (both skilled and unskilled). The factory produces high density polythylene pipe, low density polythylene pipe, poly propylene pipe, U. P. V. C. pipe as per standard specification, L. D. polythylene bags, fittings for above pipes and moulded items. During the year 1983, 1984 and 1985 the plant has sold goods worth rupees 2.45 lakhs, 2.71 lakhs and 2.34 lakhs respectively. The whole process of the plant is operated by electricity. The products of the plant is marketed in the state and is also exported to different parts of the country.

Now, there is wide scope for the entrepreneurs for establishment of industries in the district. In order to give adequate incentives to the entrepreneurs, the Central Government have declared 25 per cent investment subsidy on fixed capital investment in small scale sector and the Government of Orissa have introduced different policies like Industrial Policy Resolutions, 1980 and Industrial Policy, 1986 with a package of incentives for benefit of the entrepreneurs.

### **SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES**

Balashwar district towards the beginning of the seventies was not industrially developed and thereafter some promotional efforts were made both by the Small Industries Services Institute and Directorate of Industries to motivate people for starting new and small scale Industries in the district. Up to the end of 1973-74 there were 257 small scale units in the district. Except one plastic unit and few other repairing and servicing units, all others were saw mills, carpentry units, rice mills, rice huller-cum-wheat processing units.

Towards the end of 1974-75 to 1978-79, there were 553 small scale industries in the district. During the next seven years from 1979-80 to 1985-86 there was appreciable change in the establish-

ment of tiny and small scale industries. So far, 1880 small scale industries have been established in this district till the 31st March, 1986 with total investment of rupees 1,440 lakhs.

These 1880 small scale industries provided employment to 11,168 workers (both skilled and unskilled). All these units are registered in the Directorate of Industries. Besides, there are many unregistered factories.

Some details of these units are given below :

### **Agro and Marine based Industries**

The district being primarily an agricultural district, its economic activities centre round agriculture. Processing of paddy, wheat, oil-seeds and bakery products like biscuits, breads and pastries are manufactured in this category of industries. All these industries are mainly situated at places like Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Pirhat, Nimpo, Dhamnagar and Chandbali. These industries are 629 in number and employed 2385 (skilled and unskilled) persons. All these units are established with a capital investment of rupees 163.75 lakhs.

Although a sizeable number of agro-based industries have already come up in the district there is still potentiality for some more industries based on agricultural resources.

Among them rice milling is the largest industry in the district. It began in the early twenties of the present century and gradually spread. The main bulk of capital investment was made by the Marwaris and in a few cases by Bengalis and Oriyas. But now most of these mills have been closed or are in a state of decay.

### **Engineering Industries**

The engineering industries which are mainly located at Baleshwar, Soro, Nilagiri, Bhadrak and Charampa are ancillary in nature. They manufacture engineering articles like fabricated gates and grills, G. I. buckets, agricultural equipments, steel utensils, hospital equipments, rolling mill, huller screen blade and light engineering works. There are 187 engineering industries employing 1350 persons. All these units have been established with a capital investment of rupees 210 lakhs.

### **Chemical and Allied Industries**

Homoeopathic dilution, Ayurvedic medicines, acid, fine chemicals, phenyle, candles, soaps, cement tiles, etc., are manufactured by the Chemical and Allied Industries. These units are

mostly concentrated at Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Charampa and Chandbali. These are 107 in number and employed 1215 workers. All these units are established with a capital investment of rupees 190.98 lakhs.

### **Glass and Ceramic Industries**

The glass and ceramic industries mainly manufacture bricks and stone utensils. These industries are 178 in number and employed 2626 persons both skilled and unskilled and are mainly situated at Baleshwar and Soro. These are established with a capital investment of rupees 32.20 lakhs.

### **Plastic Product Industries**

Manufacturing of plastic fishing floats, toys and baskets, polythene film and spectacle frames coming under this industry are chiefly located at Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Remuna. These are 17 in number and have given employment to 69 persons. All these units are established with a capital investment of rupees 28 lakhs.

### **Textile Industries**

During 1974-75, 104 powerlooms were allotted to 26 entrepreneurs. But up to 1979, 12 powerloom factories have been established. These factories are mostly concentrated at Baleshwar, Jaleshwar, Bhadrak, Nilagiri, Motto and Narogoda. They manufacture readymade garments, tents, tarpaulines, Dhoti and Gamuchhas, yarn dying, pillows, hospital liveries, beds, clothing, etc. It provides employment to 29 skilled and 32 unskilled persons.

### **Electrical and Electronic Repairing Industries**

Electrical jobs, servicing and repairing of radios, tape-recorders, storage of batteries and manufacturing of battery plates are coming under this category of industries. These industries are mainly located at Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Charampa. There are 25 electrical and electronic repairing units in the district employing 62 persons. All these units were established with a capital investment of rupees 2.50 lakhs.

### **Wood and Forest-based Industries**

The forests of Nilagiri hills with its rich timber have led to the growth of some forest-based industries. There are 30 saw mills. 251 forest-based industries have been set up in the district employing 1484 persons chiefly located at Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Charampa, Chandbali, Gopalgan and Dhamnagar.



All these units were established with a capital investment of rupees 132.40 lakhs.

### **Servicing and other Miscellaneous Industries**

Servicing of auto engines, tyre retraining and resoling, painting and binding of books, body building of rickshaws, repairing of bicycles, rickshaws, tyre and tubes, welding of motor vehicles, and cycles come under these type of industries. There are 241 servicing and miscellaneous industries in the district employing 945 persons. All these units are scattered all over the district and were established with a capital investment of rupees 35.24 lakhs.

### **Leather Industries**

There are about 17 leather industries in different places of the district mainly at Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Chandipur. They produce tanned leather footwear like Chappals, shoes, leather bags, leather boxes, etc. These industries employed 48 persons.

### **Animal Husbandry**

There are 8 such industries in the district. All these units are located at Baleshwar town and have been established with a capital investment of rupees 5.5 lakhs. It gives employment to 48 persons and produces cattle and poultry feed, mineral mixtures and mineral licks.

### **Fishing**

Fishing plays a vital role in the economic development of the district. Its potentialities are vast and varied. Baleshwar is enriched with marine and brackish water resources in the 130 kilometres archshaped coastal line. Fishing, specially the marine fishing has become the main occupation of the fisherman. As per the survey conducted by the Fisheries Department in 1981 there were 227 villages covering 4749 fisherman households with a population of about 84,000 persons.

Baleshwar coast is not important for prawn fishing but for other edible fishes. The annual procurement is about 21,000 tonnes and these are mostly marketed at Calcutta. In view of the growing importance of fishing industry in the district, it has been estimated that, 350 tonnes of ice are required for preservation and packing during 1984. Keeping this requirement in view, 23 numbers of ice plant-cum-cold storage have been set up both in public and private sectors.

Fishing operation suggests the development of different types of industries such as ice plants, cold storages, mechanised boat manufacturing units, servicing units for mechanised boats (for repair), fishing nets (nylon), plastic floats, salt and other allied industries based on marine water, etc. All these above mentioned industries may be set up in the different growth centres of the district like Chandipur and Dhamara.

### **Demand based Industries**

Baleshwar being the neighbouring district of the industrially advanced state, West Bengal, there has been some impact over the people of this district.

Some industries like manufacture of plastic goods, plastic buckets, plastic chappals, paints and varnishing, modern electrical goods, decorative items, etc., have got scope for development in the district. As there is good demand for fuel to meet demands arising out of fuel scarcity, industries for manufacture of coke briquettes, coal-dust briquettes and saw-dust briquettes thrive well.

### **COTTAGE INDUSTRIES**

In spite of many odds and obstacles, a number of traditional cottage industries of the district have survived since centuries. After independence attempts are being made to organise them by giving technical assistance and financial aid under the government patronage. Industrial co-operative societies are being formed for providing adequate capital and better methods of marketing. The demand for these hand-made products is gradually increasing.

Account of the cottage industries existing at present in the district are given below.

### **Handloom Weaving**

Among the cottage industries, weaving occupies a prominent place in the district. Cotton weaving is still carried by the 'Tanti' (the weaver caste) who weave cotton cloths, which are noted for their durability. Muslin manufactures for which Baleshwar was once famous, has gone into oblivion although it survived for a long time in Bhadrak in a decadent condition after British occupation. Yarns required for weaving coarse cotton cloths are procured from outside. Weaving is also carried on by people belonging to other castes who have set up looms after getting some training in the art.

The highest number of weavers live in villages. The main impediments in their progress and prosperity are the scarcity of raw materials, want of capital and lack of modern looms and marketing facilities. Their manufacturing activities are solely confined to the old-fashioned articles like napkin, Dhoti and saree. Co-operative societies have been organised among the weavers. There are 72 weavers' co-operative societies in the district and 5361 weavers have been enrolled as members as on 31st March, 1985. These societies were established with a capital investment of Rs. 41.30 lakhs. The quantity of raw materials consumed by these co-operative societies during the years 1982-83 and 1983-84 were 97.47 lakh kilogrammes and 97.84 lakh kilogrammes respectively. They produced 12.67 lakh square metres and 34.85 lakh square metres of clothes as finished goods during these two years.

There are at present 10,230 persons employed in these units as workers with an average earning of Rs. 450 to 500 per month. Besides, these establishments engage daily labourers according to their need. There are 5115 looms in operation at present. The main centres of activity of the co-operative societies are Balashwar, Bhadrak and Jaleshwar.

The Orissa Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Ltd., procures the products from the primary weavers' co-operative societies to market them through its sale depots situated in the urban and semi-urban areas of the district.

Besides, other measures like organisation of exhibition, providing rebate on sale of handloom clothes, etc., are being implemented to popularise the handloom products. But inspite of the facilities provided by the state, the industry is in a state of decay. The wages earned by the weavers of the district is low as compared to other classes of artisans. Moreover, the poor and illiterate weavers of the district are ignorant about the financial pattern and schemes sponsored by the Government from time to time to provide financial help both from the institutional agencies and from the Government. Inadequate financing has retarded healthy growth of the handloom industry of the district. Keen competition with mill-made cloth and power loom products also poses serious challenge to the growth and development of handloom industry.

### **Village Leather**

Only one village leather unit in the form of a co-operative society is functioning at Nilagiri. This unit was established with a capital investment of Rs. 6,000. Mostly the Harijan people of

the area are engaged in this society. They are engaged in collection of hide-skins, flaying of leather and manufacturing shoes and other leather products.

### **Village Fibre**

There are some families of Harijans in the villages of Jaleshwar C. D. Block who produce small carpets, coirmats, ropes, etc., as their traditional craft. There is only one co-operative society located at Khuad for the development of the industry through which the local people get employment.

### **Processing of Cereals and Pulses**

Out of 20 units engaged in processing of cereals and pulses in the district 6 units are properly functioning which are managed by the co-operative societies. They are called as the Hand-pounding co-operative societies. These units are located at the Chaugachhia, Nilagiri, Similia, Tihiri, Basudebpur and Khaira and have given employment to 347 persons out of which most of them are part-time and casual workers. They manufacture rice only. Besides, the rest units are closed due to the introduction of rice hullers.

### **Village Pottery**

There are as many as 300 potters in the district who have been settled up in a scattered area in different places like Nilagiri, Bhadrak, Dhamnagar, etc. At present there are 2 co-operative societies functioning in the district mainly located at Nilagiri and Bhadrak. The Dhamnagar unit is yet to start its production. They usually manufacture earthenwares, roofing tiles, jars and old fashioned pots for cosmetic purposes. Lack of capital and modern techniques are the two great impediments in their progress. For its development, it receives financial assistance from the State Khadi and Village Industries Board.

### **Gur and Khandasari**

There are 4 Gur and Khandasari industrial co-operative societies in the district located one each at Baliapal and Dhamnagar and two at Tihiri which employ about 200 artisans in this trade. It produces Gur and Khandasari. The units at Baliapal and Dhamnagar have been closed.

### **Bee-keeping**

There is only one Bee-keeping Co-operative Society functioning at Baleshwar town. The society has enrolled bee-keepers from the different C. D. Blocks of the district. It produces honey and marketed

it in and outside the district. Besides the unit also manufactures bee-boxes as an approved supplier for supply to other members of the societies outside the district. It engaged about 600 persons for this purpose.

### **Carpentry and Blacksmithy**

There are 3 Carpentry Industrial Co-operative Societies mainly located at Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Similia. About 214 local artisans have been provided employment through these societies both skilled and unskilled. They manufacture wooden materials like cots, chairs, tables, benches, almirahs, racks, wooden agricultural implements, etc.

### **Cane and Bamboo work**

Bamboo work is also one of the important cottage industries of the district. A large number of people in many villages earn their livelihood through this industry. They prepare various types of mats, baskets and other kinds of goods which find a ready market in near by towns and villages. Four industrial co-operative societies have been established at Nilagiri, Bhograi, Similia and Tihiri which gave employment to 54 persons excluding other part-time and casual workers.

### **Village oil**

There is only one village oil industrial society located at Similia which produces edible oil.

### **Cottage Match**

There is only one Cottage Match Industrial Co-operative Society in the district at Similia which employs 40 persons. It produces match sticks and boxes and was established with a capital investment of Rs. 20,000.

### **Lime**

There is a Lime Industrial Co-operative Society in the district located at Mitrapur employing 28 persons. It collects raw lime shells and manufactures lime powder for whitewash. It is in moribund condition.

### **Salt**

In the year 1958, some people of Bolang organised a salt co-operative society known as the Bolang Salt Manufacturing Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd. The Revenue department leased out 100 and 150 acres of salt land in 1958 and 1975

respectively to this society. This unit is situated at a distance of 60 km. from Balleshwar. The Industry department has posted a Salt Supervisor in the said society for better management and production. As it is a seasonal manufactured commodity, the output fully depends on the sun-ray in summer. The production of this society was 20,000 quintals of salt during the year 1984-85.

### **Coir**

There are four Coir Industrial Co-operative Societies in the district located at Sardhapur, Navada, Jhadapipal and Bolang. About 163 members have been enrolled as members. These units manufacture door mats.

### **Bell-metal**

Bell-metal industry in the district is chiefly concentrated at Remuna. There is a co-operative society. About 46 persons were engaged in this trade. The society is unable to prosper due to the non-availability of raw-materials at cheaper rate.

### **Stone carving**

There are about 90 families of stone carvers in village Baulagadia who mostly belong to the tribal class. There is a co-operative society at Baulagadia to assist the stone workers. The stone workers get stones from the local stone quarries through the co-operative society and prepare various kinds of stone utensils. The economic condition of these stone carvers is not good. They have taken to agriculture and field labour as their subsidiary occupations.

Recently, another stone carving industrial co-operative society has been organised at village Gohirapada under Soro C. D. Block named as Laxminarayan Marble and Stone Carving Co-operative Society. These two societies have employed 363 persons in this trade.

The products of the handicrafts are being marketed through different co-operative stores, government handicraft shops, exhibitions conducted in the district and state level and trade fairs in various national and international level.

### **Panchayat Samiti Industries**

There are three Panchayat Samiti industries in the district. These are registered under the names of Carpentry Co-operative

Society, Remuna; Nilagiri Carpentry Industrial Co-operative Society, Nilagiri; and Blacksmithy Co-operative Society, Nilagiri. They manufacture, wooden furnitures and fabrication works like grills, gates, etc.

For the development of the village industry, the Cottage Industries Board helps in sanctioning working capital loan. The Orissa Small Industries Corporation supplies machineries to the educated unemployed persons for putting up of the units. Apart from this, the Orissa State Financial Corporation and commercial banks are also financing the entrepreneurs.

### **District Industries Centre**

According to the policy of the Central Government, a District Industries Centre with a General Manager as the head of office is operating since 1st August, 1978. This is an institution at the district level which provides all services and facilities to the entrepreneurs and artisans at one place for setting up small and village industries. The main function of this office is to help, establish new industries by identification of suitable schemes, preparation of feasible reports, arrangements for supply of machinery, equipments and raw materials, credit facilities, power, land, factory shed, etc., and inputs for marketing and extension services under one roof at the district level.

The General Manager co-ordinates the work of 5 functional divisions, each functional division being headed by a Manager and assisted by an Assistant Manager. Extension Officers have been posted in the field to look after the development of both small scale and village industry in the rural areas. There are also many class III and class IV employees to assist them.

### **State Assistance to Industries**

The State Government have provided many facilities for the development of existing industries as well as for the establishment of new industries (both small scale and cottage). Under the State Aid to Industries Act, these industries are allowed financial assistance to obtain raw materials from outside on liberal terms. They are also assisted to obtain machineries at subsidised rate and steps are taken for proper marketing of their products. The industries avail of free technical advice and the State Government awards stipends for technical training for different industries. For this purpose many training centres have been established to train students, artisans in different technical trades.

The Orissa Financial Corporation, Orissa Small Scale Industries Corporation, Orissa Khadi and Village Industries Board, Directorate of Export Promotion & Marketing, Industrial Development Corporation Limited, Directorate of Textile and Handloom Development Corporation arrange financial as well as technical assistance to these co-operatives for this purpose.

Besides, under the Integrated Rural Development Programme, emphasis is laid on training of rural youths for self employment programme and they are also rehabilitated under the scheme after they receive training with stipend as per Government of India norms. During the 6th Five Year Plan Period 1,834 persons were trained under TRYSEM out of which 1,390 have been rehabilitated in the district so far.

With the advent of the new industrial policy of the Government regarding the self employment scheme for the unemployed youths, the district had a target of extending loans to 1,833 beneficiaries. But infact the sanction was more than the target (1900). Till the 31st October 1986, 1,601 beneficiaries were financed during the last 3 years by different nationalised banks to set up their units.

### **Industrial Estate**

The only industrial estate in the district with 11 numbers of sheds was constructed at the district headquarters, Baleshwer, in the year 1974. At present, there are 50 sheds in this industrial estate. About 32 small scale units have been set up in 46 sheds. The other sheds are in the process for allotment. During 1980, the industrial estate, Baleshwar has been transferred to the Industrial Infrastructural Development Corporation of Orissa Ltd. These sheds are allotted to the entrepreneurs on outright purchase or on hire purchase basis on 10 years instalment scheme.

In addition, 20 acres of land have been acquired by IDCO for development of one industrial estate at Bhadrak.

### **Industrial Potential Plan for Future Development**

Action is being taken for potential survey of the resources available for putting up of industries in this district mainly forest based and consumer type. After the introduction of the D. I. C. programmes in the district, the future prospects of the village



industries and co-operatives seems to be bright with the arrangement of technical know-how, adequate financial assistance, comprehensive training to artisans and marketing of their products.

### **Labour and Employees Organisation**

The industrial working class of the district may be broadly divided as factory workers and miscellaneous workers. About 3,766 workers/labourers were employed in 98 registered factories of the district till 31st March 1985. Apart from this there are many unregistered factories with a number of casual workers. Most of the factory workers have their wage scales and many of them have secured employment in the rice mills, saw mills and in Proof and Experiment Unit, Chandipur.

There were 58 registered trade unions in the district till the 31st March 1985. Generally the workers of registered factories have formed trade unions to safeguard their interest. All these trade unions are affiliated to all-India organisations like INTUC, AIDEF, CITU, ADIEF, ACCDEF, AIPWF, AITUC., ADEIBEF., ADDUEF., OSEBF., STEF., etc.

Almost all the major factories of the district have provided amenities to their employees. The welfare measures include recreation club, rest shed, canteen, first-aid, drinking water, medical facilities, hutments, etc.

Besides, the Labour department took steps for proper implementation of various labour laws (15 in number) in force in the district through their district level offices located at Baleshwar and Bhadrak and also by the Central Government in respect of their undertakings.

### **General Conditions of Industrial Labourers**

The industries in the district are both urban and rural based. The urban based industrial labourers enjoy more facilities than the rural based labourers.

Details about the labour welfare measures have been dealt in chapter XVII (Other Social Services).

## CHAPTER VI

### BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

#### BANKING AND FINANCE

##### History of indigenous banking

The village money-lenders, namely, Sahukars and the Mahajans constituted the main bulk of the indigenous bankers for several generations. They played a conspicuous role in the rural economy and were the only agency engaged in providing agricultural finance. The village money-lenders were lending money to the needy people at an exorbitant rate of interest which differed from place to place. They lent money against pledge of gold and / or silver ornaments, land, household utensils, agricultural implements or standing crop in the field. The crop in the field was usually bought by the money-lender himself during the harvest time at a nominal rate and the price was adjusted against the loan including the interest. The Kabuliwallas were also found lending money to the poor village folk as well as the workers in the industrial area. Sometimes loans were advanced clandestinely and dubious ways of collection of arrears were adopted by the money-lenders.

##### General credit facilities available

The uneconomic holdings, insecurity of crops and concentration of land in the hands of a few were mainly responsible for indebtedness among the agricultural population.

##### Indebtedness

An economic survey<sup>1</sup> conducted by the Government of Orissa in 1954-55 reveals the indebtedness of the cultivating families only. Nevertheless, since these families constitute the overwhelming majority, the condition with regard to the debt will be a broad picture of the state of rural indebtedness. Besides, the survey took into account only those loans which remained undischarged at the time of survey. Loans which were fully paid during the year of survey were not taken into account.

The survey indicated that debts were incurred for family consumption which accounted for 27.73 per cent. To meet the expenditure on social ceremonies and litigation, 39.20 per cent of the total debt were incurred. These were responsible for 66.93 per cent of the total debt of the farmers which were noticeably burdensome. Of the total debt, 22.57 per cent were incurred for

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1. Economic Survey of Orissa, (1954-55), vol. I, by Prof. Sadasiv Misra.

various productive purposes, of which 5.11 per cent accounted for expenditure on cultivation, 8.51 per cent for purchase of land and bullock, 8.86 per cent for house building, and 0.09 per cent for investment in business.

As regards the source of credit, the chief source was the money-lenders. The data showed that 92.60 per cent of the total amount of debt were obtained from money-lenders, some of them were professional and some others, agriculturists or zamindars. On certain occasions, some farmers secured loans either from Government on the plea of land improvement under the Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883 or for agricultural purposes under the Agriculturists Loans Act, 1884. This constituted only 7.40 per cent and were mostly used for consumption or for social purposes like marriage, etc.

Loans were incurred not only in cash but also in kind and the interest charged by one money-lender from the same debtor in respect of loans in cash and in kind was also different. The data revealed 98.24 per cent and 1.76 per cent of the total debt were incurred in cash and in kind respectively.

Of the total loan 27.22 per cent carried 25 per cent and 8.97 per cent carried 37.5 per cent rate of interest. 31.88 per cent of the loans carried interest rates at 3.5 per cent, but there were 6.5 per cent and 9.5 per cent loans from Government agencies, co-operative societies and banks. 6.74 per cent of the loans carried 50 per cent and above rate of interest, 6.52 per cent carried no interest which were usually lent out by friends and relatives for short time.

In the meantime more than three decades have passed and there has been a considerable change in credit facilities in the district. So in the present context the role of private financing has almost been replaced by institutional financing.

### **Role of private money-lenders**

In recent years there has been considerable growth in the number of co-operative credit societies and banks. But the influence of private money-lenders has not totally waned in the district. The money-lenders charge higher rate of interest but still they are approached because, firstly, they are easily approachable; secondly, borrowers do not have to undergo any red-tapism; thirdly, they sometimes advance loans without any security. So borrowers have no fear of attachment of property.

The money-lenders of the district may be classified into rural and urban, professional and non-professional. The distinction between rural and urban money-lenders is based purely on their areas of operation. As regards the difference between a professional and non-professional money-lender, the former primarily combines his business with other trade, whereas the latter who are land-owners and affluent persons lend money on good security to those who are fairly known to them.

The private money-lenders and financiers still supply a sizable portion of rural credit. Their oppressive character is not very different from that of their counterparts elsewhere but they now operate under severe restrictions imposed by the Orissa Money-lenders Act, 1939 as amended by the Orissa Money-lenders (Amendment) Act, 1975. By these Acts, the money-lender is required to register himself and obtain a licence for carrying on business. He is also required to maintain regular account books and to deliver statement of accounts to the licencing authority. The rate of interest on different types of loans has been legally fixed, such as, simple interest of 9 per cent per annum in case of secured loan and up to 12 per cent per annum in case of unsecured loan. A money-lender is punishable with imprisonment or pecuniary fine or both in case of default. The law provides that the total amount including the principal loan and interest thereon shall not exceed twice the amount of loan taken.

All possessory mortgages now stand discharged after expiry of a period of 7 years from the date of mortgage and the money-lender has to deliver back all mortgaged land within a period of three months from the date of expiry of the period of 7 years. Violation of the provision of this law attracts penalty of imprisonment up to one year and fine up to Rs. 1,000. The offence is triable by the Sub Collector and not by the Judiciary. As a measure of liquidation of rural indebtedness the State Government have also enacted "The Orissa Debt Relief Act, 1980" in order to extend the benefit to small and marginal farmers whose land is not more than one standard acre and the landless agricultural labourer and the rural artisans whose total annual income does not exceed Rs. 2,400. This Act came into force with effect from 13.3.1981. This contains provision to the effect that every debt incurred by the scheduled debtors before 13.3.1981 including the principal and the interest, if any, payable on such date shall be deemed to have been wholly discharged and no Civil Court shall institute any suit or proceedings against them for recovery of debt and interest. All suits and proceedings pending or the recovery of the same shall abate. Besides every property

pledged by a scheduled debtor shall stand discharged in favour of such debtor, and the creditor shall be bound to return the same to the debtor forthwith.

The Orissa (Scheduled Areas) Money-lenders Regulation, 1967 was brought into force with effect from 1st November, 1969 in order to control and regulate the business of money-lending in the Scheduled Areas of the state. Nilagiri C. D. Block I in Nilagiri subdivision is a Scheduled Area. This contains provisions similar to those contained in the Orissa Money-lenders Act which underwent extensive amendment in 1975.

As a positive measure, the Government have amended the Orissa Co-operative Societies Act, so that people can avail loans easily. Paddy loan is advanced under 'Crop Loan System' to the agriculturists at the time of their need. Moreover, the commercial banks have come up to render credit assistance to the agriculturists, manufacturers, businessmen, and others for productive purposes at a low rate of interest which has forced the private money-lenders to be somewhat moderate in their demand.

It is difficult to give any reliable statistics regarding number and volume of business of the money-lenders. There are many private money-lenders carrying on business without a licence. In 1985, there were 21 registered money-lenders who advanced a total loan of Rs. 3,49,955 to the borrowers in the district.

### **Commercial Banks**

There are twelve commercial banks with 83 branches and one Regional Rural Bank (Gramya Bank) with 61 branches operating in the district as on 31st March, 1986. The United Commercial Bank is the lead bank of the district. By the end of above mentioned year the nationalised banks accepted deposits of Rs. 35,59,72,000 and advanced loans of Rs. 31,95,78,000 in the district.

### **Regional Rural Bank**

The Regional Rural Bank operating in the district is named as Baleshwar Gramya Bank. This bank is functioning with sixty-one branches spreading all over the district.

By the end of 31st March, 1986, the Baleshwar Gramya Bank accepted deposits amounting to Rs. 3,42,76,000 and made advances of Rs. 3,76,27,000 in the district.

The location of branches of different nationalised banks and the Baleshwar Gramya Bank is given in Appendix I of this chapter.

### Post-Office Savings Bank

Post-offices are the most important outlets for the savings of the people. The number of account holders in post-office savings banks is increasing steadily from year to year.

The following tables give details of the Small Savings collections, Savings Accounts, Recurring Deposit Accounts, Time Deposit Accounts, Public Provident Fund, 7-years National Savings Certificate-II Issue, Cumulative Time Deposit Accounts, National Savings Certificate-VI Issue, National Savings Certificate-VII Issue and 10-years Social Security Certificates, from 1981-82 to 1985-86.

#### Small Savings Collections

Year	Deposits (in rupees)	Withdrawals (in rupees)	Net balance (in rupees)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1981-82	8,03,08,185	6,84,77,090	1,18,31,095
1982-83	9,62,89,537	7,60,25,976	2,02,63,561
1983-84	10,32,27,896	10,07,59,372	2,46,85,524
1984-85	10,14,72,226	9,43,52,661	71,19,565
1985-86	12,21,15,857	9,16,41,539	30,47,43,118

#### Savings Accounts

Year	Deposits (in rupees)	Withdrawals (in rupees)	Net collections (in rupees)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1981-82	6,14,63,209.68	5,87,60,717.40	27,02,492.28
1982-83	7,31,78,730.91	6,46,47,865.41	85,30,865.50
1983-84	7,46,94,465.00	8,49,37,970.07 (—)	1,02,43,505.07
1984-85	6,64,79,073.00	7,74,05,738.00 (—)	1,09,26,665.00
1985-86	7,67,85,102.00	7,03,60,947.00	64,24,155.00

**Recurring Deposit Accounts**

Year	Deposits (in Rs.)	Withdrawals (in Rs.)	Net collections (in Rs.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1981-82	23,72,984.80	14,41,188.63	9,31,776.17
1982-83	28,14,487.04	20,53,424.15	7,61,062.89
1983-84	32,90,818.05	27,02,572.71	5,88,245.34
1984-85	39,72,856.00	31,20,218.00	8,52,630.00
1985-86	49,39,807.00	37,55,064.00	11,84,743.00

**Post-office Time Deposit Accounts**

1981-82	51,69,343.20	57,59,331.22	(—)5,89,998.02
1982-83	41,44,847.85	64,16,526.79	(—)22,71,678.94
1983-84	44,17,970.00	82,95,801.60	(—)38,77,831.60
1984-85	54,43,139.00	87,54,507.00	(—)33,11,368.00
1985-86	62,91,611.00	93,14,873.00	(—)30,23,262.00

**National Savings Certificate VI Issue**

1981-82	88,71,895.00	2,000.00	88,69,895.00
1982-83	1,34,85,970.00	13,486.50	1,34,72,483.50
1983-84	1,74,95,470.00	2,42,315.15	1,72,53,154.85
1984-85	2,31,03,810.00	4,62,553.00	2,26,41,257.00
1985-86	3,17,78,020.00	1,25,119.00	3,05,19,901.00

**National Savings Certificate VII Issue**

1981-82	7,37,100.00	4,080.00	7,33,020.00
1982-83	12,20,310.00	1,10,421.60	11,09,888.40
1983-84	20,47,230.00	2,86,054.75	17,61,175.25
1984-85	11,22,180.00	4,57,349.00	6,64,831.00
1985-86	11,13,100.00	7,75,469.00	3,37,631.00

Year (1)	Deposits (in Rs.) (2)	Withdrawals (in Rs.) (3)	Net collections (in Rs.) (4)
<b>10- Year Social Security Certificates</b>			
1981-82	N. A.	N. A.	N.A.
1982-83	88,000.00	Nil	88,000.00
1983-84	21,000.00	Nil	21,000.00
1984-85	1,000.00	Nil	1,000.00
1985-86	1,000.00	Nil	1,000.00
<b>Public Provident Fund</b>			
1981-82	5,110	..	5,110
1982-83	18,910	..	18,910
1983-84	11,850	..	11,850
1984-85	1,500	700	800
1985-86	2,100	..	2,100
<b>7-Year National Savings Certificate II Issue</b>			
1981-82	3,44,020.00	3,78,474.84	(—)34,454.84
1982-83	3,15,300.00	3,07,367.57	8,122.43
1983-84	1,92,100.00	2,98,433.65	1,06,333.65
1984-85	2,77,580.00	4,10,044.00	(—)1,32,464.00
1985-86	2,07,600.00	3,62,927.00	(—)1,55,327.00
<b>Cumulative Time Deposit Accounts</b>			
1981-82	9,62,457.35	10,02,829.23	(—)70,371.88
1982-83	10,22,891.71	9,53,832.87	69,058.84
1983-84	10,56,993.27	14,80,351.45	(—)4,23,358.18
1984-85	10,71,088.00	14,61,260.00	(—)3,90,172.00
1985-86	9,97,517.00	15,40,830.00	(—)5,43,313.00



### **Co-operative Banks and Credit Societies**

The Baleshwar Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., with headquarters at Baleshwar is the first co-operative banking organisation in the district. The bank has branch offices at Bhadrak, Tihiri, Basudebpur, Nilagiri, Soro, Jaleshwar and Baleshwar Sadar. The membership of the bank consists of 511 co-operative societies and the State Government.

#### **Baleshwar Central Co-operative Bank, Ltd.**

In 1983-84, the bank had a share capital of 212 lakhs. During the above period the other reserve fund, deposits and borrowings were Rs. 62 lakhs, Rs. 318 lakhs and Rs. 123 lakhs respectively. The working capital of the bank was Rs. 2001 lakhs. The bank advanced Rs. 1623 lakhs as short-term and medium term loans for processing of agricultural produce, purchase of cattle, purchase of machinery, sinking and repairing of wells and improvement of land. The total loan outstanding was Rs. 1653 lakhs of which an amount of Rs. 794 lakhs was overdue.

#### **Urban Co-operative Bank**

In 1983-84, there were two Urban Co-operative Banks operating in Baleshwar and Bhadrak. The banks had a total membership of two thousand persons at the end of 1983-84. These banks had a total of Rs. 17 lakhs and Rs. 2 lakhs as working capital and share capital respectively. A total loan of Rs. 5 lakhs were advanced by these banks. The loans outstanding were Rs. 14 lakhs.

#### **Land Development Banks**

In 1983-84, there were three land development banks operating in Baleshwar, Nilagiri and Bhadrak. The banks had a total membership of 46 thousand persons. These banks had a total working capital of Rs. 551 lakhs of which paid-up capital was Rs. 41 lakhs. Their total reserve fund was one lakh rupees. During the year, the loans outstanding were Rs. 460 lakhs of which an amount of Rs. 46 lakhs was overdue. These banks advanced loans of Rs. 60 lakhs to members for purchasing tractors, pumpsets, for digging wells and for land improvement.

#### **Large-sized Agricultural Multipurpose Co-operative Societies**

In 1983-84, there were two LAMPS situated at Nilagiri and Matiali with a total membership of 10,000 persons. These banks had a total working capital of Rs. 69 lakhs of which paid-up capital was Rs. 7 lakhs, deposits Re. 1 (one) lakh and borrowing Rs. 42

lakhs at the end of 1983-84. During the year the loans-outstanding were Rs. 37 lakhs of which an amount of Rs. 10 lakhs was overdue. These banks advanced Rs. 391 lakhs as short-term and one lakh rupees as medium term loans.

### **Primary Agricultural Credit Co-operative Societies**

In 1983-84, there were 247 Primary Agricultural Credit Co-operative Societies with a total membership of 252,000 persons in the district. These societies function at village level as the agencies for the distribution of agricultural inputs and agricultural credit to the farmers. The societies had a total working capital of Rs. 2,058 lakhs of which paid-up capital was Rs. 224 lakhs, deposits Rs. 31 lakhs and borrowing Rs. 1471 lakhs. The societies during the above period advanced Rs. 550 lakhs and Rs. 30 lakhs as short-term and medium term loans respectively. Out of the total 241 P. A. C. S., 178 societies made a net profit of Rs. 18 lakhs. Sixty-nine societies sustained a loss of Rs. 11 lakhs.

### **Employee's Credit Co-operative Societies**

In 1983-84, there were 60 Employee's Credit Co-operative Societies with a total membership of 5,000 persons in the district. The societies had a total working capital of Rs. 44 lakhs of which paid-up capital was Rs. 6 lakhs. Rupees 21 lakhs were advanced by these societies as loans. An amount of Rs. 33 lakhs stands as outstanding loan against these societies out of which Rs. 3 lakhs have been overdue.

### **General and Life Insurance**

With the nationalisation of insurance companies, a branch office of the Life Insurance Corporation of India was opened on the 1st September, 1956 with headquarters at Baleshwar. Till 1973, it had been working as a branch office with the jurisdiction of Baleshwar, Kendujhar and Mayurbhanj districts. At present, Kendujhargarh in Kendujhar district and Baripada in Mayurbhanj district have been raised to the status of branch office, and hence the Baleshwar branch office is transacting business only for its own district. A second branch office is opened at Bhadrak for furthering L. I. C. activities in the district.

At present there are about ten thousand policy holders in the district. During the period 1985-86, 14,17,60,750 rupees of business was done by the Life Insurance Corporation of India in the district.

The annual business done by the branch offices located at Bhadrak and Baleshwar is furnished below.

Year	Name of the Branch	Number of Policy	Sum assured (in Rs.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1981-82	Baleshwar	1,178	1,34,28,500
1981-82	Bhadrak	1,440	1,71,30,000
	Total ..	2,618	3,05,58,500
1982-83	Baleshwar	1,272	1,55,30,000
1982-83	Bhadrak	1,263	1,90,36,000
	Total ..	2,535	3,45,66,600
1983-84	Baleshwar	1,601	2,29,30,250
1983-84	Bhadrak	1,706	2,70,28,500
	Total ..	3,307	4,99,58,750
1984-85	Baleshwar	2,905	3,50,26,000
1984-85	Bhadrak	2,263	3,36,54,250
	Total ..	5,168	6,86,80,250
1985-86	Baleshwar	5,185	18,01,20,000
1985-86	Bhadrak	4,169	6,16,40,750
	Total ..	9,354	14,17,60,750

The Life Insurance Corporation of India has advanced loan for house building on long term basis to the Government of Orissa and private persons. Besides, a number of persons have been granted loans against their policies for meeting various requirements

like daughter's marriage, medical expenses, etc. The rate of interest for house building is 12.5 per cent. Rs. 2,08,273 have been granted to 173 policy-holders during the financial year 1979-80. The Life Insurance Corporation of India has also advanced loan of Rs. 36,33,000 to Balashwar Municipality, and Rs. 28,00,000 to Bhadrak N. A. C. for speeding up various development works.

### **General Insurance Corporation of India**

Four General Insurance Companies, viz., the Oriental Insurance Company Ltd., the National Insurance Company Ltd., the United India Insurance Company Ltd., and the New India Assurance Company Ltd., are functioning in this district. These companies are doing insurance on fire, burglary, automobiles, etc.

### **State Assistance to Industrial Development**

In 1987-88, fifty new small scale industries have been registered in this district and all the units have started production. Government help industrial development in the district in many ways. Besides direct help through District Industries Centre, the Government sponsor the names of the young entrepreneurs to State Financial Corporation and commercial banks for assistance.

In 1987-88, Orissa State Financial Corporation has sanctioned Rs. 670.11 lakhs to 75 entrepreneurs in the district. By the recommendation of District Industries Centre, different commercial banks have sanctioned working capital loan of Rs. 89.90 lakhs to 62 entrepreneurs in 1987-88. The District Industries Centre has sanctioned funds to the extent of Rs. 13,90,860 in favour of 364 existing Industrial Co-operative Societies and Rs. 36,570 to 110 number of artisans engaged in handicraft and coir industry.

In 1987-88, Rs. 4.37 lakhs have been sanctioned as state investment subsidy in favour of the new small scale industries. During the same period the investment subsidy of Rs. 181.20 lakhs has been sanctioned by the Central Government in favour of entrepreneurs of the district.

### **Currency and Coinage**

#### **Cowry Currency**

In the past, cowry (*Cypraea moneta*) played a vital role in the currency system of the land. There are evidences of the prevalence of cowry currency in Orissa as well as in the district up to the beginning of the 19th Century A. D. In 1808, the British Government introduced their own coins called Sicca rupee. This hasty step to stop the cowry currency which constituted the main

medium of exchange among the vast majority of people for centuries resulted in an abnormal fall in the price of cowry upsetting the whole monetary system and causing great misery and hardship to the people at large.

### **Coinage**

Various types of coins that were in circulation for different periods have been discovered. The important types are the Puri-Kushan coins, Gandibedha coins, the Ganga Fanam and the coins of Muslim and Maratha periods.

In 1964, thirty Ganga Fanams (small gold coins of Ganga period) were discovered in Khurunta Grama Panchayat under Khaira police-station in the district. A few silver and copper coins of Muslim period have been discovered. These have been identified as Sultan Sayed Bin Brash Bin Sultan-Ha-Fez Copper Coins, H. M. Nawab of Jadwa 1895 Copper Coin, Iulus Saha Alam Badsaha Copper Coins, Constantinople Copper Coins, Saha Alam Silver Coins, Abu Baqr with figure of Midina Serif Silver Coins and Afghanistan Habibulla Silver Coins. Besides, a few copper coins of Holkar Indor and Gaikwarsambat 1941, have been discovered.

The East India Company circulated their own coins in British possessions in India. These coins were also in circulation in the district. In 1974-75, four such coins were collected and preserved in the Jayadev Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneshwar.

The decimal system of coinage was introduced on the 1st April 1957. Gradually, the old system of coinage was discontinued and the coins were withdrawn from circulation. The people have now been fully adopted to the decimal system of coinage. Coins and paper currency of different denominations of all-India standard are in circulation.

## **TRADE AND COMMERCE**

### **Pre-independence Period**

When the British finally conquered Orissa, the only trade worthy of name was an export trade, chiefly in rice and salt.<sup>1</sup> Three different kinds of craft chiefly frequented export and import trade, viz., Maldiva vessels, which brought cowries, coconuts, coral and dried-fish, and took back rice and earthen pots; the sloops which carried salt to Calcutta; and sloops, built at Kantai

1. Bengal District Gazetteers, Balasore, 1907. L.S.S.O' Malley,

and Huguli, which only came in the cold season and carried rice to Calcutta. The Raja of Kanika independently carried on trade in rice with Calcutta. A large number of swine and cattle found their way by land route to the Calcutta market. In course of time the export trade lost its former importance and began to decline. In 1813, the Collector of the district reported that "the only articles exported were rice and little salt (about rupees three lakhs and that the trade was hardly known even by name.<sup>1</sup> The internal trade was limited to the supply of rice and other articles of every day use to the towns, and the mutual exchange of surplus produce and articles of home manufacture at the rural marketing centres or *hats* in the interior. The Britishers had done some justice in opening up roads, canals and port facilities in the district. The port facilities at Chandbali, False Point and Baleshwar were developed. This opened up for the local produce new horizons in the out-side markets.

The chief items of export were salt, sugar, European piece-goods, cotton, yarn, hardware and Indian products, such as, gunny-bags, coconut oil, spices, ghee, drugs and raw cotton. The principal export item was rice, which in favourable seasons was despatched in enormous quantities, by sea, canal and railway. Other exports were hides, jute, oil-seeds, timber and stoneware. A considerable quantity of the grain exported came from the Garhjats, and several traders from Baleshwar visited Nilagiri and Mayurbhanj and purchased the crops upon the fields. Rice was shipped over sea to Ceylon and Mauritius. But with these exceptions, trade, both import and export, was carried on chiefly with Calcutta and Madras. The year 1905-06 witnessed an expansion of the sea-borne trade. The total import value was Rs.28.5 lakhs and the total export value for the same period was Rs.33.5 lakhs.

Besides Baleshwar and Chandbali, which were the chief centres of the sea-borne trade, there were minor ports at Mandhata and Batanga on the Orissa Coast Canal, Baliapal on the Matai and Barbetia on the Guchida river. A small export trade was also carried on at Talpada, Inchudi and a few other villages along the Coast Canal, at Churakhai on a tidal creek connecting with the Panchapara, and at Panchrukhi on a tidal creek connecting the Subarnarekha near Jankunda. But the bulk of the local trade was carried on at various *hats* or markets scattered throughout the interior. The introduction of railway however transformed the whole system of internal and external trade. The trade centres gradually grew-up around the railway stations. The sea-borne trade came to a sharp decline giving place to railways.

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1. Bengal District Gazetteer, Balasore, 1907.

### **Post-independence Period**

Trade and commerce in the district are mainly agro-based, forest-based and marine-based. Bhadrak and Baleshwar are the principal towns and rail-heads which control mostly the trade of the district. The chief exports of the district are paddy, rice, jute, fish, dried fish, oil-seeds and stoneware. Rice and dried fish are mostly despatched to markets in Calcutta. Rice is also exported to the neighbouring districts.

The important commodities imported are, wheat, sugar, fertilisers, grocery, iron and steel goods, agricultural implements, drugs, engineering products, cement, kerosene oil, petrol, cloth, ready-made garments, electrical goods, spices, automobiles, utensils, etc.

### **Trade Centres**

The chief commercial centres of the district are Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Chandbali, Nilagiri, Baliapal, Remuna, and Chandipur.

### **Baleshwar**

Baleshwar is the district headquarters. It is the main rail-head which is connected by regular bus services leading to the development of trade and commerce. There are also bus services from Baleshwar to all the subdivisional headquarters and important places of the district. The town has mostly retail traders. There are also a good number of wholesale traders who deal mainly in paddy, rice, pulses, cloth, timber and minor forest produces.

### **Bhadrak**

Bhadrak is the subdivisional headquarters of a subdivision of the same name and is situated at a distance of 70 km. from the district headquarters. The National Highway No. 5 joins Bhadrak with Baleshwar. Bhadrak station on the South Eastern railway is its rail-head. There are many wholesalers and retailers. Varieties of shops, both permanent and temporary, have grown up recently in different parts of the city. Business in different commodities on a large-scale is carried on daily. The chief business centres are located at Puruna Bazar, Naya Bazar, Charampa Bazar and Kacheri Bazar. Puruna Bazar is the centre of wholesale trade. There are a large number of shops dealing in textile, grocery, stationery, medicine and various other articles to meet the ever growing demand of the town.

### **Chandbali**

During British days Chandbali was the chief centre of sea-borne trade. With the introduction of railway and improvement upon the system of road transportation, Chandbali has lost its past glory. How-

ever, Chandbali is now an important rural marketing centre of the Tahasil of the same name. It is situated at a distance of 120 km. from the district headquarters. Bhadrak is its main rail-head. It is connected to Bhadrak by an all-weather black-topped road and frequent bus services. There is a market and a few shops which deal in articles of daily necessities and luxuries.

### **Nilagiri**

Nilagiri is the subdivisional headquarters of a subdivision of the same name and is situated at a distance of 21 km. from the district headquarters, to which it is connected by regular bus service. The town has mostly retail traders. There are a few wholesale merchants who transact business mostly in rice, paddy, pulses and oil-seeds. Nilagiri is famous for stoneware and utensils. Traditional families are doing the stone cutting business for decades. There are a good number of shops which deal in such stone products. There is a daily market.

### **Baliapal**

Baliapal is the headquarters of a police-station in Baleshwar subdivision and is situated at a distance of 61 km. from the district headquarters. It is connected to district headquarters by regular bus service. The town is famous for wholesalers of betel leaf. Huge amount of betel leaf is produced in the locality. There are also wholesale merchants who transact business in rice, paddy and oil-seeds. There is a daily market and a few shops which meet the requirements of the local people.

### **Remuna**

Remuna is situated in the Baleshwar subdivision at a distance of 8 km. west of Baleshwar. It is an important trade centre, containing one of the largest markets in the northern part of the district. There is considerable trade in brass utensils and vegetables from its neighbourhood. The famous shrine of Khirachora Gopinath is located here, and a religious fair is held here in February. The fair lasts for about thirteen days and large quantities of commodities are sold here during this occasion. A daily market sits here with a few shops to meet the needs of the local people.

### **Chandipur**

Chandipur is a village in Baleshwar subdivision. It is situated on the sea-coast about 15 km. east of Baleshwar and 4 km. from the mouth of Burhabalanga. Chandipur is connected by regular bus service with Baleshwar. It is fast growing as a fishing centre.



Large quantities of excellent marine fish are caught here at a place called Balaramgarhi which are carried to Baleshwar and sent to Calcutta.

### **Rural Marketing Centres**

In rural areas, greater part of local trade is carried on at a good number of markets scattered throughout the interior. These markets sit on specific days of a week. These markets, though generally not of any great size, are conveniently situated for the supply of local needs. They also act as centres at which grain is collected for export. At these markets the villagers dispose of their surplus stock of rice, pulses and other local produce and make purchases of textile or piece goods, trinkets, utensils, kerosene oil, salt, fancy articles, etc. The weekly markets are the most important channels of agricultural marketing. The average distance covered by people to bring commodities to the nearest market centre is 10 km. The economy is not yet fully monetised and as a matter of fact barter system prevails in remote corner of rural areas. There are also large number of the Scheduled Tribe and the Scheduled Caste people in the district who live mostly in far off interior places and village weekly markets are of great importance to them since they sell their local produce in exchange of their daily necessities and luxuries. Merchants from town areas and also from outside the district visit these markets for purchasing goods at lower rate. Trade in cattle is carried on in some big markets.

Bhadrak, Basudebpur, Chandbali, Balashwar, Bant, Jamujhari, Kupari, Rupsa, Soro, Betada, Jaleshwar, Remuna and Kaupur are the big weekly markets of the district.

A list of rural marketing centres is given in Appendix II of the chapter.

### **Regulated Markets**

The object of the regulated markets is to regulate purchase and sale of agricultural commodities for the benefit of the sellers as well as of the buyers. The producers are provided with market intelligence and storage accommodation. Market practices relating to bidding, weighing and delivery of goods are regulated and payment of fair price to the cultivators is assured.

### **Bhadrak Regulated Market**

The Bhadrak Regulated Market came into existence in the year 1960. Its jurisdiction (i. e., the areas for which a regulated market is established) comprised Grama Panchayat areas

of Bhadrak, Rabandia, Charampa, Berhampur, Anapal, Gajirda, Behada, Kolai, Kaupur, Rahanga, Sabrang, Kendrapada, Ramkrushnapur and the whole of Tihiri and Dhamnagar police-stations. The market yard is located at Isapur-Khunsa comprising 8 hectares of land. There is a sub-market yard at Tihiri. The management is carried on by a market committee which was formed on 20th April 1973. The market committee consisted of 15 members representing agriculturists, traders, and members nominated by the Government and the local authorities. The market committee collects information regarding the prevailing price in other markets and disseminates the same for the information of the producer. Various amenities in the market yard are now in the construction stage. When completed, these facilities would bring immense benefit to the producer-sellers. The notified commodities are sold in the market but open auction is not practised at the Bhadrak Regulated Market. The producer-seller exercises his option to sell at the rate offered. If he likes, he can withhold his stock to take a chance for a better bargain. The weighing is done by the licensed weighmer under the committee in the presence of the seller or his representative. The buyer has to pay the value of the stock within 24 hours from the time of delivery under the supervision of the market staff.

The following are declared as regulated commodities for this regulated market.

#### **Name of Commodities**

Jute, paddy, rice, Mung, Biri, Khesari, gur, potato and onion.

#### **Livestocks**

Cattle, sheep and goat

The income and expenditure of the Regulated Market during the year 1983-84 to 1985-86 is furnished below.

Year		Income	Expenditure
		Rs.	Rs.
1983-84	..	30,784.00	42,999.00
1984-85	..	55,317.00	27,791.00
1985-86	..	1,06,451.00	33,645.00

#### **Balashwar Regulated Market**

The Balashwar Regulated Market came into existence in the year 1966. The market area (i.e., the area for which a regulated market is established) comprises the Grama Panchayat areas of Rasalpur, Jeydebkashba, Sargan, Gada, Gopinathpur, Ramsahl,

Patrapada, Sindhia, Parikhi, Sartha, Inchudi, Sergada, Srijanga, Shrirampur, Chhanua, Haladipada, Kaligan, Barunsingh, Koroda, Nizampur, Kalyanpur, Remuna, Naraharipur, Durgadevi, Patipal, Badapal and the town police-station area. The market yard is situated at Mauza Dampada in an area of 4 hectares of land. On the portion of the market yard stand the office building, well, auction hall, chaukidar shed, cattle shed and an open platform.

The administration is carried on by a market committee consisting of 15 members which is also empowered to take all administrative decisions in connection with the working of the Regulated Market.

The table below gives the income and expenditure of the Regulated Market during the period 1983-84 to 1985-86.

Year	Income	Expenditure
	Rs.	Rs.
1983-84	1,97,390-00	81,800-00
1984-85	2,07,490-00	1,42,026-00
1985-86	2,03,633-65	1,14,490-00

The following are declared regulated commodities for this regulated market.

Paddy, Rice, Mung, Biri, Khesari, gram, groundnut, coconut, Gur, mango, banana, potato, onion, egg, turmeric, fish, dryfish, corriander and chilli.

**Birds and Animals**

Poultry and cattle.

### **Jaleshwar Regulated Market**

Jaleshwar Regulated Market came into operation in 1964. The market area comprises the revenue villages of Santhia, Ramanagar, Deulipanchgarh, Patharpur and the Grama Panchayat areas of Jaleshwar, Raibania, Bhograi, Baliapal, Singhla, Bagta, Basta and Nagram,. The management is carried on by a market committee consisting of 15 members. No market yard or sub-yard is established yet and auction sale has not been introduced.

The following are declared regulated commodities for this Regulated Market:

Cotton, sunhemp, jute, paddy, rice, Biri, Mung, mustard, coconut, groundnut, tobacco, Gur, sugar-cane, mango, lemon, banana, jack fruit, turmeric, fresh vegetables, sweet potato, ginger, garlic, betel leave, cashew-nut, sabai grass, fish and dry fish.

The table below gives the income and expenditure of the Regulated Market during the period 1983-84 to 1985-86 :

Year		Income	Expenditure
		Rs.	Rs.
1983-84	..	17,138.10	3,314.47
1984-85	..	6,324.60	1,768.05
1985-86	..	15,387.95	33,395.70

### **Chandbali Regulated Market**

Chandbali Regulated Market was established in 1961. The market area comprises Grama Panchayat areas of Korand, Katana, Trilochanpur, Bandia, Kantapada, Lahunivamanda, Hatsahi, Charapada and the police-station areas of Chandbali and Bansada. The market committee which is consisted of 15 members came into office in 1972. There is no market yard in the Chandbali Regulated Market.

### **Co-operative Marketing Societies**

There were five Regional Marketing Co-operative Societies during 1983-84. These societies mainly deal with agricultural inputs. Besides the Regional Marketing Co-operative Societies, there were two wholesale consumer co-operative stores, fifty-six Primary Co-operative Stores, four House Building Co-operative Societies, one Milk Supply Co-operative Society, eighteen Labour Contract and Engineering Co-operative Societies, forty-six Fishery Co-operative Societies and four Irrigation Co-operative Societies.

### **Regional Co-operative Marketing Societies**

In 1983-84, there were five Regional Co-operative Marketing Societies located at Balleshwar, Jeleshwar, Soro, Bhadrak and Chandbali. The total membership of these societies was 3,000. The working capital, share capital, procurement and sales of these societies were Rs. 278 lakhs, Rs. 28 lakhs, Rs. 21 lakhs and 87 lakhs respectively.

### **Wholesale Co-operative Stores**

In 1983-84, there were two Wholesale Consumer Co-operative Societies located at Balleshwar and Bhadrak. The membership of these two societies were 2000. The working capital, value of purchase, value of sale and profit were Rs.35 lakhs, Rs. 72 lakhs, Rs. 72 lakhs and Rs. 1 lakh respectively.

### **Primary Consumer Co-operative Stores**

In 1983-84, there were fifty-six Primary Co-operative Consumer Stores. The total membership of these stores was 24,000. The working capital of these societies was Rs. 35 lakhs. During the year, the value of total purchase was Rs. 42 lakhs. In the same year the societies earned a profit of rupees one lakh.

### **House Building Co-operative Societies**

In 1983-84, there were four House Building Co-operative Societies with a total membership of 1000 persons. The working capital of these societies was Rs. 22 lakhs. Six lakh rupees were advanced for the purpose of building houses. Loans outstanding and loans overdue were Rs. 18 lakhs and rupees one lakh respectively.

### **Milk Supply Co-operative Societies**

In 1983-84, there was one Milk Supply Co-operative Society with a total membership of 18 persons. The working capital and share capital were Rs. 5 lakhs and Rs. 3 lakhs respectively. During the year, the society sold milk amounting to two lakh rupees incurring loss in the business.

### **Labour Contract Engineering Co-operative Societies**

In 1983-84, there were eighteen Labour Contract and Engineering Co-operative Societies with a total membership of 1000 persons. The working capital of the societies was Rs. 304 lakhs. Fifty-four works were executed by different societies during the year.

### **Fishery Co-operative Societies**

In 1983-84, there were forty-six Fishery Co-operative Societies with a total membership of 5000 persons. The working capital and share capital were Rs. 144 lakhs and Rs. 12 lakhs respectively. The total value of sale amounted to six lakh rupees during the year. Out of forty-six societies, 23 earned a profit of one lakh rupees and 7 incurred a loss of one lakh rupees while the rest 16 made no profit no loss.

### **Irrigation Co-operative Societies**

In 1983-84, there were four Irrigation Co-operative Societies with a total membership of 223 persons. The societies had a total working capital of one lakh rupees during the year.

### **State Trading**

The trading of the Food and Civil Supplies Department, Government of Orissa, begins on the 1st November of each year and ends on the 31st October of the succeeding year. The table at page 293 indicates the disposal of essential commodities through Fair Price Shops.

## Disposal of essential commodities through various Fair Price Shops in Baleshwar District.

Year (Kharif year)	Rice in quintals	Wheat in quintals	Sugar in quintals	R. R. S. O. refined rapeseed oil (in tins of 16 kg.)	Palmolin oil (in tins)	Mustard oil (in tins)	Kerosene oil (in tins)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1980-81	63,124.00	41,124.76	1,03,948.00	Nil	Nil	Nil	12,528.70
1981-82	1,59,169.50	50,163.60	1,05,882.00	18,910	2,081	1,886	13,427.70
1982-83	1,22,765.10	2,02,160.10	1,13,769.00	22,103	2,988	4,089	14,004.30
1983-84	54,004.00	1,98,517.00	1,18,440.00	10,830	30,702	674	14,748.50
1984-85	67,550.00	1,08,880.00	1,22,536.00	49,659	30,209	Nil	15,714.50
1985-86	16,234.00	21,431.00	82,399.00	1,169	20,871	Nil	8,538.00

## Weights and Measures

Prior to the introduction of the metric system, the weight in common use was the Indian standard *seer* of 80 tolas. The common measure of volume was *mana* in all transactions of rice, paddy and other foodgrains. For measuring length; yard, feet and inch were in use. The local land measurement was 100 decimals equal to 25 *gunthas* equal to one *mana* or acre and 20 *manas* made one *bati*.

For the measurement of liquids, gallons and *seers* of 80 tolas were in use and one *seer* was equal to 16 *chhataks*.

In the district, a peculiar system of dry measure was in use before metric system was introduced. They were, 4 *seers* equal to 1 *pudi*, 10 *seers* equal to 1 *gauni*, 400 *seers* equal to 1 *pauti* and 80 *pautis* equal to one *bharan*.

However, these measures varied not only in nomenclature but also in capacities from area to area. Materials from which these measures were constructed also varied from place to place. As a result of such differences in the use of weights and measures there was ample scope for the traders to cheat the consumers.

So, with a view to overcoming these difficulties, the metric system of weights and measures was introduced as an all-India standard from the 1st April 1962. Initial difficulties were experienced by both the consumers and traders, but after regular practice and publicity through distribution of conversion tables, charts and pamphlets, the metric system has been accepted by the people and is in vogue.

## APPENDIX I

Location of branches of different nationalised banks and Baleshwar Gramya Bank.

Name of the Bank (1)	Location of branches (2)	
STATE BANK OF INDIA	1. Amarda	12. Fatepur
	2. Aradi	13. Jaleshwar
	3. Baleshwar	14. Kansa
	4. Baleshwar Industrial Estate	15. Kenduapada
	5. Basudebpur	16. Kupari
	6. Bhadrak	17. Motiganj (evening), Baleshwar town
	7. Bishnupur	18. Pratappur
	8. Chandbali	19. Sarsada
	9. Chandipur	20. Soro
	10. Dobal	21. Similia
	11. Durgadevi	22. Srirampur
ALLAHABAD BANK ..	1. Baleshwar	3. Manjuri Road
	2. Bhadrak	4. Agarpada
CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA	1. Baleshwar	3. Brahmansahi
	2. Bhadrak	..
INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK	1. Bhadrak	4. Kuruda
	2. Gujirdarda	5. Baleshwar
	3. Nalanga	..
PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK	1. Bhadrak	2. Bant
BANK OF INDIA ..	1. Akhuapada	5. Pandia
	2. Baleshwar	6. Remuna
	3. Basta	7. Turigadia
	4. Daulatpur	..

(Contd.)



Name of the Bank (1)		Location of branches (2)	
UNITED BANK	COMMERCIAL	1. Ada	14. Ganeswarpur
		2. Asurali	15. Ghanteswar
		3. Bahanaga	16. Gopalpur
		4. Baleshwar	17. Khairapur
		5. Baliapal	18. Nangaleswar
		6. Bansada	19. Nilagiri
		7. Bideipur	20. Oupada
		8. Bhadrak	21. Raibania
		9. Bhograi	22. Ranital
		10. Bhandaripokhari	23. Rajnagaratgar
		11. Dhamnagar	24. Soro
		12. Dhusuri	25. Tihiri
		13. Dolasahi	..
UNITED BANK OF INDIA		1. Baleshwar	7. Jaleshwar
		2. Balimunda	8. Mangalpur
		3. Barapada	9. Motto
		4. Baunsadiha	10. Rupsa
		5. Charampa	11. Berhampur
		6. Dhamara	
SYNDICATE BANK	..	1. Baleshwar	..
VIJAYA BANK		1. Baleshwar	..
BANK OF BARODA	...	1. Baleshwar	..
UNION BANK OF INDIA		1. Bhadrak	..

(Contd.)

Name of the Bank (1)	Location of branches (2)
BALESHWAR GRAMYA BANK	1. Baleshwar
	32. Kasafal
	2. Nizampur
	33. Sartha
	3. Khantapada
	34. Ganijang
	4. Haldipada
	35. Gandibeda
	5. Dharampur
	36. Chhanua
	6. Balaramguda
	37. Chardia
	7. Arana
	38. Anapal
	8. Santragadia
	39. Nampo
	9. Betada
	40. Kamarda
	10. Sejanagada
	41. Chandaneswar
	11. Damgura
	42. Bhograi
	12. Barikpur
	43. Remuna
	13. Singla
	44. Vellora
	14. Anantapur
	45. Khaprapada
	15. Mitrapur
	46. Ratei
	16. Ayodhya
	47. Dahmunda
	17. Rasalpur
	48. Rajpur
	18. Bari
	49. Basantia
	19. Anko
	50. Barunasingh
	20. Mandari
	51. Amchua
	21. Paunsokuli
	52. Jagannathpur
	22. Purusottampur
	53. Mahatabnagar
	23. Chhatrapur
	54. Sadananda- pur
	24. Padmapur
	55. Nuagan
	25. Sabrang
	56. Lakshmannath
	26. Kaithkhola
	57. Ranakotha
	27. Guagadia
	58. Badapokhari
	28. Biana
	59. Anji
	29. Paliabindha
	60. Khirkona
	30. Chudamani
	61. Bidu
	31. Gobindpur
	..

(Contd.)

## APPENDIX II

**A list of rural marketing centres in the district**

Name of the Subdivision (1)	Location (2)	Day/Days (3)
Bhadrak	Chudamani	Bi-weekly
	Nangipada	Do.
	Sida	Do.
	Sahid (Angadi)	Do.
	Padhuan	Weekly
	Bachhada	Bi-weekly
	Sankharo	Do.
	Suan	Do.
	Betada	Weekly
	Binayakpur	Weekly
	Kamargan	Bi-weekly
	Brahmangan	Do.
	Ertal	Do.
	Sugo	Do.
	Padmapur	Do.
	Rajgharpokhari	Do.
	Matipaka	Do.
	Krushnapur	Do.
	Biras (Bedeipur)	Do.
	Naikanidihi	Do.
	Balimunda	Do.
	Basudebpur	Weekly
	Mandari	Bi-weekly
	Dhamnagar	Weekly
	Dobal	Weekly
	Chudakuti	Bi-weekly
	Nuahat	Do.
	Dhusuri	Do.
	Betaligan	Do.

(Contd.)

Name of the Subdivision (1)	Location (2)	Day/Days (3)
	Barikpur	Weekly
	Bhandaripokhari	Weekly
	Tihiri	Bi-weekly
	Dolasahi	Weekly
	Sabaranga	Bi-weekly
	Pirahat	Do.
	Bant	Do.
	Kaupur	Do.
	Kadabaranga	Do.
	B. T. pur	Do.
	Ganijanga	Do.
	Randia	Do.
	Arnapal	Do.
	Paliabindha	Do.
	Hanuman	Do.
	Chandbali	Weekly
	Ghanteswar	Weekly
	Motto	Weekly
	Kaithkola	Weekly
	Karanjmal	Bi-weekly
	Charadia	Do.
	Narasinghpur (Dhamara)	Do.
	Bansada	Do.
	Dogachhia	Do.
	Kherang	Do.
	Gadi	Do.
Nilagiri	.. Nilagiri	Bi-weekly

(Contd.)

Name of the Subdivision (1)	Location (2)	Day/Days (3)
	Baulagadia	Bi-weekly
	Mitrapur	Bi-weekly
	Berhampur	Do.
	Sajanagada	Do.
	Iswarpur	Bi-weekly
	Kasapa	Do.
	Darakholi	Do.
	Santaregadia	Do.
Baleshwar	.. Mathani	Do.
	Rupsa	Bi-weekly
	Haldipada	Do.
	Raisuan	Bi-weekly
	Darada	Do.
	Sahada	Do.
	Singla	Do.
	Vellora	Bi-weekly
	Paunshuli	Do.
	Khaparapada	Do.
	Similia	Do.
	Jamkunda	Do.
	Ratei	Do.
	Mandhata	Do.
	Ambchua	Do.
	Dwarika	Do.
	Anarda	Do.
	Basta	Do.
	Baliapal	Do.
	Motiganj	Do.
	(Baleshwar town)	
Baleshwar	.. Nayabazar	Do.
	(Baleshwar town)	

(Contd.)

Name of the Subdivision (1)	Location (2)	Day/Days (3)
	Sergada	Bi-weekly
	Golei Chhak	Do.
	Korada	Do.
	Chandipur	Do.
	Remuna	Do.
	Padmapur	Do.
	Rasulpur	Do.
	Badakia-Bardhan- pur	Do.
	Fuladi	Do.
	Olanda Sargan	Do.
	Denla	Do.
	Bhograi	Do.
	Jaleshwar	Do.
	Raibania	Do.
	Nimatpur	Do.
	Jayarampur	Do.
	Nuagan	Do.
	Lockhut	Do.
	Nachinda	Do.
	Banghadiha	Do.
	Nampo	Do.
	Khnard	Weekly
	Kesapur	Bi-weekly
	Pachimbad	Do.
	Kaliko	Do.
	Kapari	Do.
	Khalra	Do.
	Gandibeda	Do.
	Sarugan	Do.
	Budhagadia	Do.

(contd.)

Name of the Subdivision (1)	Location (2)	Day/Days (3)
	Tudigadia	Biweekly
	Sundira	Do.
	Goliha	Do.
	Kurunta	Do.
	Dagorpada	Do.
	Ada	Do.
	Dungara	Do.
	Bartana	Do.
	Antara	Do.
	Bahanaga	Do.
	Gopalpur	Do.
	Anji	Do.
	Anantpur	Do.
	Pakhar	Do.
	Junia	Do.
	Soro	Do.
	Bagudi	Do.
	Mangaipur	Do.
	Singakhunta	Do.
	Manipur	Do.
	Barkpur	Do.

(Contd.)

## CHAPTER VII

### COMMUNICATIONS

The progress and prosperity of a country depend much upon the facilities of communication. The hoary antiquities of Orissa indicate that she was connected with other countries by sea and land routes in the past. There were also a good deal of facilities of communication inside Orissa. Balashwar, a north-eastern district of Orissa, has rich tradition on the line. Its boundaries extend in the north up to Midnapur district in West Bengal, in the south to Cuttack district, in the west to Kendujhar and Mayurbhanj districts and in the east to the Bay of Bengal.

From early times, people of the district used to visit pilgrim centres like Gaya in Bihar, Birajakhetra at Jajpur and Srikhetra at Puri to offer *pinda* or oblation to their forefathers. It is obvious that there were pilgrim routes between these places in early days. The historical accounts on Kalinga and the neighbouring kingdoms have thrown light on the ancient routes. The Hathigumpha inscription of Kharavela mentions the conquest of Kalinga by a Nanda King of Magadha. It is not known in which route the soldiers of the Nanda King marched on to Kalinga from Magadha. The Mauryan Emperor Asoka, the Great, came with a large army and conquered Kalinga in the middle of the 3rd Century B. C. It is clear that the Mauryan army travelled all the way from Pataliputra to Tosali on a highway where water and food stuff were abundantly available. In the 2nd or 1st Century B. C., Emperor Kharavela of Kalinga not only marched as far as Rajagruha in the north, but he advanced in the west to the Kingdom of the Satavahanas and in the south to the kingdom of the Pandyas. The army of Kharavela consisted of four divisions, viz., elephant, chariot, cavalry and infantry. For the movement of chariots a highway is essential. This indicates that there were good roads in those days.

The above three events happened nearly two thousand years ago. The routes followed by the rulers are not known clearly. Hence, Padmasri Paramananda Acharya conducted a survey on these ancient routes and has given the following views.

"If we assume that Tosali of the Asokan inscriptions and Kalinganagar of the Kharavela inscription were situated somewhere near Bhubaneshwar, we must also assume that in those days, the Mahanadi was crossed at a place near the present Cuttack town. There are two possibilities of easy communication towards north, one on the Birupa branch of the Mahanadi and then on the Kimbhira branch of Birupa up to the Brahmani, or on the places just east to the foot of the hills up to Dharmasala. The



road from the southern bank of the Brahmani to Jaipur, lay after crossing the rivers Kharswan and the Budha, a branch of the Vaitarani. From Jaipur the road stretched northwards up to Midnapur via Dhamnagar, Bhadrak, Soro, Remuna, Ramachandrapur, Garhpada, Basta, Amarda, Raibania, Gaganeswar, Kesari and Kharagpur. From Midnapur it stretched to Garh Mandaran from where it was bifurcated one towards Burdwan and the other towards Saptagram and Trivenighat on the Ganges. The road just below the foot of the hills up to Dharmasala stretched in the north-westerly direction up to Anandapur in Kendujhar on the Vaitarani and then following the Vaitarani valley it reached Khiching in western Mayurbhanj. From Khiching the road went in north-easterly direction up to Bahalda in Mayurbhanj via Bamanghati (modern Rairangpur town). From Bahalda it went in a northerly direction via Saraikela to the Manbhum district where it touched the Subarnarekha valley. From this place the road to Gaya or Patna is quite possible. Out of these two possible routes which one was in actual use, is to be considered. A trade route can be determined by the find-spot of coins and other antiquarian remains. On the eastern routes beyond Remuna no archaeological evidence earlier to 1000 A. D. has been reported. But on the western route from Dharmasala to Bahalda, there are reports on the find of coins. From Kayama hill near Dharmasala Kushan copper coins have been found. From Sitabinjhi in Kendujhar, situated in the Vaitarani valley, Puri-Kushan coins have been unearthed. At Khiching and Bhanjalia, Kushan and Puri-Kushan type of copper coins have been found. At Rairangpur, Roman coins of Gordian type have been found. At Tentala, Kushan coins and at Dundu near Bahalda silver punch marked coins have been unearthed. There are reports of discovery of such coins in Singhbhum and Manbhum districts. All throughout this route there is abundant water supply by the rivers and rivulets. From the above accounts it seems that there were trade or pilgrim routes from the Subarnarekha valley in Manbhum, Singhbhum and northern Mayurbhanj district to the Vaitarani valley in the western Mayurbhanj, eastern Kendujhar up to Anandapur so far as the hill area is concerned.

The rest of the route towards south of Anandapur is quite possible up to Puri. So it is suggested that this route was followed by the Nanda king, Ashoka and Kharavela<sup>1</sup>.

Towards the middle of the 11th Century A. D., a route was possible to Orissa from the right bank of the Ganges in Hooghly through Garh Mandaran, Midnapur, Raibania, Amarda, Basta and Remuna. On this route in the second part of the 11th Century A. D.,

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1. Studies in Orissa History, Archaeology and Archives by Padmasri Paramananda Acharya, pp. 446-47.

Jayasimha, the ruler of Dandabhukti, an ally of Ramapala, helped Karnakesari of Utkal who was defeated by the Ganga king Rajaraja. This account is mentioned in the Ramacharita of Sandhakarnandin. Soon after the conquest of Utkal about 1111 A. D., Chodagangadeva spread his powers up to the Ganges following this route and established a frontier station at Garh Mandaran.

The *Tabaqut-i-Nasiri* reveals that the Sultan of Bengal invaded Orissa in A. D. 1245—47 during the rule of Narasimhadeva I. During this war the Orissan army followed this route from Cuttack to Garh Mandaran and thence to Lakshnavati or Gaur. In 1351 A.D., Shams-ud-din-Ilyas Shah of Bengal invaded Orissa through this route.

In the year 1510 Shri Chaitanya came from Bengal. He decided to spend his last days at Puri in adoration of Lord Jagannath. He came to Puri by passing through Tamluk, Jaleswar, Amarda, Kanpur, Sadanandapur, Ramachandrapur, Remuna, Sergar, Soro, Bhadrak, Dhamnagar, Gaurangapur and Jajpur. Shri Chaitanya halted at Purushottampur near Burwa now called Baruan after crossing the Mandakini river, now dried up. He then came to Gopinathpur, Choudwar and Cuttack. From this place he proceeded to Satyabhamapur near Baliana and Kamalpur near Chandanpur on the bank of the river Bhargavi. Finally Shri Chaitanya reached Puri after crossing Atharnala bridge.

In 1624, Prince Khuram (Shah Jahan) during his revolt against his father, entered Ganjam from the south and passing through Cuttack, Baleswar and Mayurbhanj went to Uttar Pradesh. During the reign of Akabar, Raja Man Singh came to Orissa taking the Midnapur-Jaleswar-Bhadrak-Kalkalaghati-Cuttack route.

In the time of Aurangzeb, Khan-i-Dauran being directed to take over his new assignment in Orissa, proceeded from Allahabad and first went to Midnapur which was then "the first town after crossing the Orissa border" then to Jaleswar and then to Cuttack. The Siyar reveals that all along the highway to Cuttack and Puri, tanks and ponds were constructed by pious Hindus for the benefit of the pilgrims travelling to the temple of Lord Jagannath.

Van Den Broke prepared a map in 1660 A. D. In that map places like Jagannath, Cuttack, Bhadrak, Baleswar, Remuna, Narasinghpur, Pipili, Jaleswar and Dantan were shown on a highway. Some places of north Orissa were also shown in Rennel's Map of 1779.<sup>1</sup>

In 1766, Thomas Motte was sent by Lord Clive to Sambalpur to explore the possibilities of trade in diamond. Motte travelled from Jaleshwar to Cuttack by the route which was then known as the Badasahi Road. After crossing the Kathajori river near Cuttack, Motte travelled on the right bank of the Mahanadi up to Boudh. After that, he passed through the dense forest and came to Redhakhol and reached Sambalpur through Jujumara.<sup>1</sup> In 1770, G. F. Leckie followed the same route up to Boudh and travelled through Charchika, Baidyeswar, Padmavati and Kantilo. From Boudh, he came to Sonapur and travelling through Dungripali and Salebhata and crossing the river Ang, reached Borasambar region. He then proceeded north-west towards Raipur and Nagpur.<sup>2</sup>

When the British conquered Orissa in 1803, it was practically isolated from the rest of India, as there were very little internal communication. Throughout the district there were no roads in the modern sense of the word in existence. What were then called roads were merely fair-weather cart tracks without bridges. The pilgrims to Puri followed the dangerous route through Nilagiri and Mayurbhanj which in many places passed through dense jungles infested by tigers and other wild animals. The first step taken by the East India Company to remedy this state of affairs was the construction of the Great Orissa Trunk Road connecting Calcutta with Puri. Since the heavy expenses discouraged the then Bengal Government to take up this work, Raja Sukhamaya Ray, a zamindar of Calcutta, offered a donation of Rs. 1,50,000 towards construction of this highway on condition that his name should be inscribed in Sanskrit, Persian and Bengali on all the bridges to be constructed on this highway. The Court of Directors in London agreed to have his name transmitted to posterity. Construction of this highway was commenced in 1812 under the supervision of Captain Sackville, a military engineer. This new route passed from Jagatpur on the left bank of the Mahanadi through Akhuapada and Bhadrak, by-passing Jajpur and Dhamnagar. Construction of the road up to Rajghat on the Subarnarekha was completed by Captain Broughton in 1825. The total expenditure for construction of this highway was Rs. 8,19,158 excluding Raja Sukhamaya Ray's donation of Rs. 1,50,000. It was not metalled and was not properly bridged. In spite of this difficulty in communication, pilgrims especially from Bengal, streamed to Puri particularly during Rath Jatra. John Beame, the then Collector of Baleshwar, in his "Memoirs of a Bengal Civilian" gives an interesting account of the condition of the pilgrims using this road in the year 1870.

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1. Reprint of Motte's account in O. H. R. J., Vol. I., No. 3.

2. Reprint of Leckie's account in O. H. R. J., Vol. II, Nos. 3 and 4.

"The stream of pilgrims down the road was the busiest thing in it. The Orissa Trunk Road, a section of the great Imperial road between Calcutta and Madras, runs like a backbone down the whole length of the Balasore district for 120 miles. It is a work of almost Roman solidity, being raised fifteen or twenty feet above the level of the country across which it runs, visible from afar like a great dyke with its solid masonry bridges, long rows of shady trees and lines of telegraph posts and wires. The surface is metalled with laterite or iron-sandstone, a dark red stone found all over Orissa which makes admirable roads, bridges and other buildings. Along this noble road passes all the year round, but chiefly at the seasons of the great festivals-the Dol Jatra or spring festival in January, and the Rath Jatra or Car festival in June an endless string of pilgrims from all parts of India; the poor limping wearily on foot, the rich in bullock carts or Palkis, to the great temple of Jagannath at Puri. To protect these pilgrims from being robbed or maltreated there are regular patrols of police all along the road. There are also hospitals at several places where they receive medical assistance gratuitously if they fall ill from fatigue or disease on their way. Of course, large numbers of them fall ill and die, and they almost always bring fever and cholera with them on their return. The women, as usual, suffer most.

There is a class of Brahmans attached to the temple of Jagannath (vulgo Juggernaut) called Pandas, whose business it is to travel long distances all over India, extolling the virtues of pilgrimage to Jagannath, and inducing people to undertake it. The decaying zeal of the modern Hindu for pilgrimage is kept alive by these touters, who are naturally most successful with the women. It used to be a common sight to see a strong, stalwart Panda marching along the road, followed by a little troop of small, cowering Bengali women, each clad in her one scanty, clinging robe, her small wardrobe in a palm-leaf box on her head, with the lordly Panda's luggage on her shoulders. At night they put up at one of the chatties or lodging-houses which are found all along the road. Here his lordship reposes himself while his female flock buy his food and cook it, spread his couch, serve his dinner, light his pipe, shampoo his limbs, and even, if he so desires, minister to his lust.

When at length they reach Jagannath the Panda leads his flock round to all the places of worship, sees them through all the ceremonies and, in collusion with the Pariharis, or temple priests, screws out of them all their money down to the last cowry, in fees and offerings. The ceremonies ended, he has done with them, and remorselessly turns them adrift to find

their way home, a distance perhaps of many hundred miles, as best they may. So far from their homes from which they have in many cases started surreptitiously, purloining their husbands' hoard of money, these wretched women have to tramp warily back through the rain, for it is mostly for the Rath Jatra, in the rainy season, that they come. What with exposure, fatigue and hunger they die in great numbers by the roadside. Those whose youth and strength enable them to survive the journey are often too much afraid to their husbands' anger to return home and end by swelling the number of prostitutes in Calcutta.

Often journeying about the district and riding late along the road, we passed scores of white figures of Bengali women lying asleep on the damp ground muffled in their thin cotton saris, their only garment. We never know how many of them were alive and how many were dead. Only every morning a band of 'sweepers of the dead' (murdah-farrash) as they were called, marched along with a cart to carry off and bury as many of the white-robed figures as had finished their mortal journey during the night. A large staff of these official croque-morts had to be maintained all along the road."

In 1514, the Portuguese established a town in Pipili about 4.24 km. from the mouth of river Subarnarekha on the coast of the Bay of Bengal. Pipili was then an important harbour on the Orissa coast and a great centre of Portuguese trade when their fleets commanded the whole sea board from Chittagong to Orissa.

Before the English had any footing in Orissa the Dutch settled in Pipili in 1625 and in Baleshwar in the same year. At the time of the East India Company Baleshwar, Chandbali and Dhamara ports were active. These ports had trade link with the ports at Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, Ceylon, Maldivé islands, Lakshadweep and occasionally Mauritius. During the Muslim rule, Baleshwar developed as an important port where ships from different parts of India lay anchored. It was also a ship-building centre under the state control during the Mughal rule and one Superintendent for ports and another Superintendent for ship construction were stationed there. The royal ships laden with cargoes of various kinds used to ply between Baleshwar and Porbandar on the western coast of India.

### **Roads in modern times**

Prior to independence, most of the roads were unmetalled and unbridged and were negotiable only in fair-weather. In course of time, demand for more and better roads increased.

For breaking the age-old isolation of many areas of the district which were mostly inaccessible, construction of roads and development of road transport were considered *sine qua non*. To accelerate this, large amounts were earmarked and spent on the development of roads in the successive plan periods. At present the district is served by National Highways (NH), State Highways (SH), Major District Roads (MDR), Other District Roads (ODR) and Classified Village Roads (CVR).

The length of roads according to category and surface classification in Baleshwar district is given below as on 31st March, 1985.

Category of roads	Length in kilometres
National Highways ..	106.50
State Highways ..	50.49
Major District Roads ..	531.04
Other District Roads ..	125.01
Classified Village Roads ..	157.53
<b>Total</b> ..	<b>970.57</b>

Classification of conditions of road	Length in kilometres
Black topped ..	752.93
Water bound macadam ..	140.51
Moorum ..	55.60
Earther ..	21.53
<b>Total</b> ..	<b>970.57</b>

### National Highways

The Calcutta-Madras National Highway No. 5 passes through the district. It was constructed in the year 1962. The total length of the road in the district is 106.50 km. The entire length of the road is metalled and fully bridged. It is motorable throughout the year. It starts from 96.50 km. near Banktira in Baleshwar P. S. and after passing through Baleshwar, Soro and Bhadrak enters Cuttack district at 203.00 km. near the village Akhuapada in Bhandaripokhari

P.S. To provide better communication facilities to the interiors feeder roads have been connected with the National Highway No.5. These roads are given below:

***Roads touched to N H No. 5 (pertaining to N H wing)***

- 1 Chatabar-Chachina
- 2 Chatabar-Manjuri
- 3 Nalanga-Batada
- 4 Bhadrak-Geltia-Kaupur
- 5 Charampa-Sabaranta
- 6 Ranital-Sabarang
- 7 Ranital-Kupari
- 8 Markona-Binayakpur
- 9 Jamjhadi-Khiakona
- 10 O.T. Road to Sabira
- 11 Bidu-Jayanagar
- 12 Soro-Manipur
- 13 Samalpur-Naraharipur
- 14 Baleshwar-Mitrapur

***Roads touched to N H No. 5 (Pertaining to R & B wing)***

- 1 Barikpur-Dhamnagar
- 2 Barikpur-Anandapur via Banta
- 3 Bhadrak-Akhandalamani via Kothar
- 4 Bhadrak-Chandbali
- 5 Jamjhadi-Basudebpur
- 6 Bhadrak-Agarapada via Barapada
- 7 Soro-Kupari via Khaira
- 8 Soro-Mangalpur via Bagudi
- 9 Soro-Anantapur
- 10 Sergar-Udla via Nilagiri
- 11 O. T. Road-Baleshwar-Jaleshwar via Basta

**State Highways**

The State Highway (SH) No.9 starts from Bhadrak by -pass and terminates at Chandbali. On its way to Chandbali it passes through Ichhapur, Tihiri, Pirhat and Motto. The road has 55 culverts and 10 minor bridges. The entire length of the road is 50.49 km. of which 49.27 km. is surfaced and the rest unsurfaced as on 31st March, 1985. The road is motorable throughout the year.

**Major District Roads**

There are 24 Major District Roads (MDR) in the district. The total length of these roads as on 31st March, 1985 is 531·04km. Of these, 437·99km. have black topped surface, 54·60 km. have water bound macadam surface, 33·95 km. are moorum road and the remaining 4·50 km. are earthen road. Details about the Major District Roads are shown below.

Sl. No.	Name of the road	Length in Kilometres
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	Basta-Baliapal road (MDR-2)	23·40
2	Sergar-Nilagiri-Jharanaghati road (MDR-5)	31·20
3	Soro-Kupari road (MDR-6)	29·00
4	Soro-Anantapur road (MDR-6)	11·30
5	O.T. Road up to Gandhichhak (MDR-74)	28·00
6	Salt road from Baleshwar to Anantapur (MDR)	35·20
7	Bhadrak-Baula mines road (MDR)	37·00
8	Baleshwar by-pass road (MDR-86G)	13·70
9	Bhadrak-Ichhapur-Basudebpur road (MDR-7)	24·15
10	B. K. B. M. road (MDR-8 B)	18·11
11	Bhadrak-Bant road (MDR-73)	19·72
12	Bhadrak-Kothar-Dhusuria-Aradi road (MDR)	36·50
13	Salt road from Anantapur to Basudebpur (MDR)	15·15
14	Basudebpur-Dhamara road (MDR)	47·00
15	O. T. Road from Gandhichhak to Bengal border (MDR-74)	90·00
16	Jaleshwar-Batgan-Huguli-Chandaneswar-Sahabajipur road (MDR-1)	42·00
17	Total of 8 Major District Roads below 10 km.	29·61
Total		531·04



### Other District Roads

The number of Other District Roads in the district is 24. The total length of these roads as on 31st March, 1985 was 125.01 km. The condition of the roads are:

Black topped	..	92.96 km.
Water bound macadam	..	30.47 km.
Moorum	..	1.58 km.
<b>Total</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>125.01 km.</b>

Details about the Other District Roads are given below:

Name of the road		Length in kilometres
1	Baleshwar-Mitrapur road	14.50
2	Mitrapur-Baincha road	11.02
3	Jamsuli-Nangaleswar road	8.70
4	Soro-Gopinathpur road	9.70
5	Soro-Charamkara road	6.50
6	Agarpada-Kupari road	8.05
7	Dhamnagar-Kothar road	9.66
8	Dhamnagar-Dubal-Sendhapur road	8.04
9	Barapada-Agarpada road	13.68
10	Total of 15 Other District Roads below 5 km. in length.	35.16
<b>Total</b>		<b>125.01</b>

### Classified Village Roads

Baleshwar district has 20 Classified Village Roads. The length of these roads is 157.53 km. of which 66.21 km. have black topped surface, 54.44 km. have water bound macadam surface, 21.07 km. have moorum and the rest 15.81 km. are earthen road. Details are given below :

Sl. No.	Name of road	Length in kilometres
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	Darada-Sahada-Kunduli-Sartha road	13.70
2	Haladipada-Solpata road	5.70
3	Nilagiri-Mitrapur road	9.90

(1)	(2)	(3)
4	Nilagiri-Santaragada-Baulagadla road ..	17.80
5	Santaragadia-Bidu road ..	6.50
6	Bahanaga-Talpada ..	14.50
7	Jamjhadi-Basudebpur road ..	12.88
8	Bhandaripokhari-Maninathpur road ..	12.88
9	Chatabar-Manjuri road ..	8.08
10	Digochhia-Bansada road ..	12.07
11	Dolasahi-Gumal Tihiri road ..	9.65
12	Rajnagar-Panchutikiri road ..	8.05
13	Kamarda-Baliapal road ..	8.00
14	Total of 7 Classified Village Roads below 5 km. in length	17.82
Total ..		157.53

#### Roads improved under R. L. E. G. P.

Some of the roads under Roads and Buildings wing and National Highways and Projects wing are improved under R.L.E.G.P. funds. Details of these roads improved as on 31st March 1985 are given below:

Name of the roads improved under R. L. E. G. P.	Length of the road in km.	Condition of the road	Name of the authority maintaining the road
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
<b>Baleshwar (R &amp; B ) Division</b>			
1 Ojhapokhari-Serdong road	6	Earthen	Panchayat Samiti
2 Ainri-Gud via Tentai	8	Ditto	Ditto
3 Irida Jugal via Bardhan	10	Ditto	Ditto
4 Khantapada station feeder road	4	Moorum road 2 km. first coat metalling 2 km.	P. W. D.

Name of the roads improved under R. L. E. G. P.	Length of the road in km.	Condition of the road	Name of the authority maintaining the road
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

***Bhadrak (R & B) Division***

1. Barikpur- Kendua- pada Bant- Mohantipada	18.11	Partly black topped and partly water bound macadam	Ditto
2. Jamjhadi- Basudebpur	12.88	Black topped	Ditto
3. Gudu-Jagannath- pur via Artung	5	Earthen	Panchayat Samiti

***Subarnarekha Division***

1. Godikhal-Darada road	7	Earthen	Panchayat Samiti
2. Nahara- Balim road	5	Ditto	Ditto
3. Baunsadiha- Priyabag road	7	Ditto	Ditto

**Municipal / Notified Area Council**

The municipality at Baleshwar and the Notified Area Councils at Bhadrak\*, Soro, Jaleshwar, Basudebpur and Nilagiri maintained 979.40 km. of roads during the year 1984-85. The details about length are given below in kilometres.

Sl. No.	Name of Municipality/ Notified Area Council	Surfaced		Unsurfaced	Total
		Black topped	Water bound macadam		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	Baleshwar ..	103.76	90.65	149.59	344.00
2	Bhadrak ..	5.20	72.00	149.20	226.40
3	Soro ..	2.00	19.00	29.00	50.00
4	Jaleshwar ..	Nil	3.00	30.00	33.00
5	Basudebpur ..	Nil	48.50	137.50	186.00
6	Nilagiri ..	15.00	95.00	30.00	140.00

\*Now a municipality

### Forest Roads

The Forest Department has constructed the following roads in the district. The length of the roads are given below.

Name of the road	Length in kilometres
Sajanagada-Kuldiha ..	11.00
Jharanghati-Betei ..	12.00
Kuldiha-Betei ..	21.00
Betei-Gadasahi ..	3.00
Total ..	47.00

### Panchayat Samiti Roads

In addition to NH, SH, MDR, ODR, CVR, Municipality/Notified Area Council and Forest Department roads, the Panchayat Samitis and Grama Panchayats also maintain roads. These roads are generally fair-weather roads and are maintained by the grants received from the Community Development, and Rural Reconstruction department of the State Government.

There are 19 Panchayat Samitis in Baleshwar district. These Samitis maintained 1,718.6 km. roads in 1986-87. Details are given in Appendix I of the chapter.

### Grama Panchayat Roads

The Gram Panchayats of the district maintained 3.023 km. of roads in 1986-87. Details are given in Appendix II of the chapter.

### Vehicles and Conveyances

The bullock-cart still plays a very prominent role in the economic life of the people, especially in the country-side where it provides the most economical means of transport of goods and passengers. Chhela, an unique system of transportation is still found in the rural areas of the district. It is made of gunny bags having two pockets on opposite sides mounted on the back of a bullock. The back is protected by a spongy cotton cover to carry the load comfortably. It is usually used by the farmers to carry manures, seeds and harvested crops. This mode of transportation is convenient even where no road system exists. Palanquins (Palki) are seen sometimes in the rural areas for carrying passengers, patients, bride and bridegrooms. Cycles are seen in every nook and corner of the district but cycle-rickshaws are mainly found in urban and semi-urban areas. The number of all such types of conveyances in municipality and notified area councils during 1984-85 are cited in the table at page 316.

## Number of registered vehicles during the year 1984-85

Sl. No.	Name of Municipality/ Notified Area Council	Number of registered vehicles		
		Cycles	Cycle rickshaws	Bullock carts
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Baleshwar ..	1,650	1,223	38
2	Bhadrak ..	4,154	1,011	41
3	Soro ..	2,300	250	10
4	Jaleshwar ..	1,035	132	65
5	Basudebpur ..	1,488	73	18

Nilagiri Notified Area Council has not registered any cycles, cycle rickshaws and bullock carts during the year 1984-85. Other vehicles in operation in the district are motor-cycles, scooters, trucks, taxis, cars, jeeps, buses and auto-rickshaws. The Regional Transport Officer, Baleshwar is the licensing, registering and taxation authority in respect of motor vehicles of the district. The strength of different categories of motor vehicles at the end of December 1985 is given below:

1	Moped ..	560
2	Scooter ..	783
3	Motor-cycle ..	1,349
4	Auto Rickshaw ..	48
5	Jeep, Land Rover, Station Wagon, etc. ..	449
6	Car ..	299
7	Taxi ..	40
8	Contract carriage, Bus ..	39
9	Stage carriage ..	297
10	Goods vehicle ..	1,188
11	Petrol and water carrier ..	21
12	Trekker ..	68
13	Trailer ..	137
14	Miscellaneous ..	24

Total ..	5,302
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### Road Accidents

The total number of road accidents that occurred in the district by the end of 1985 was 312 in which 110 persons were injured and 46 killed.

### Public Transport

The district is provided with a network of bus services. It is starting mostly from Baleshwar and Bhadrak and offering cheap means of communication facilities to almost every place not only within the district but also to other places in the adjoining districts. In 1958, the Orissa State Road Transport Corporation started functioning with a Station Master as head of the office in Baleshwar. Consequently, keeping in view, the demand of the public, the office was elevated to the post of Assistant Transport Manager. Fleet strength and staff were also increased. As demand further increased, the fleet strength and staff also proportionately increased and the office was elevated to a zone office with a District Transport Manager as head of the office. Details about bus routes operated by the Orissa State Road Transport Corporation are given below.

Routes under the Orissa State Road Transport Corporation in the district.

Sl. No.	Name of the routes	Length of routes in kilometres	No. of trips	All-weather/ Fair-weather
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
<b>Baleshwar Unit</b>				
1	Baleshwar-Sambalpur	454	1	All-weather
2	Baleshwar-Rourkela	472	1	Ditto
3	Baleshwar-Khiching	207	1	Ditto
4	Baleshwar-Olmara I	81	1	Ditto
5	Baleshwar-Olmara II	81	1	Ditto
6	Baleshwar-Hatigarh	86	1	Ditto
7	Baleshwar-Baripada I via Udala	101	1	Ditto
8	Baleshwar-Baripada II via Udala	101	1	Ditto
9	Baleshwar-Agarpada I	75	1	Ditto
10	Baleshwar-Agarpada II	75	1	Ditto

(Contd.)

Sl. No.	Name of the routes	Length of routes in kilometres	No. of trips	All-weather/ Fair-weather
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
11	Baleshwar-Agarpada III	.. 75	1	Ditto
12	Baleshwar-Agarpada IV	.. 75	1	Ditto
13	Baleshwar-Agarpada V	.. 75	1	Ditto
14	Soro-Agarpada Shuttle	.. 40	1	Ditto
15	Baleshwar--Agarpada VI	.. 75	1	Ditto
16	Baleshwar-Agarpada VII	.. 75	1	Ditto
17	Baleshwar-Udala I	.. 57	1	Ditto
18	Baleshwar-Udala II	.. 57	1	Ditto
19	Baleshwar-Udala III	.. 57	1	Ditto
20	Baleshwar-Udala IV	.. 57	1	Ditto
21	Baleshwar-Kupari	.. 67	1	Ditto
22	Baleshwar-Kuamara	.. 88	1	Ditto
23	Baleshwar-Khunta	.. 74	1	Ditto
	<b>Bhadrak Unit</b>			
24	Bhadrak-Rourkela	.. 406	1	All-weather
25	Bhadrak-Calcutta	.. 375	1	Ditto
26	Bhadrak-Bhubaneswar	.. 150	1	Ditto
27	Bhadrak-Singhpur	.. 87	1	Ditto
28	Bhadrak-Tata	.. 291	1	Ditto
29	Bhadrak-Karanjia	.. 130	1	Ditto
30	Bhadrak-Tiringi	.. 235	1	Ditto
31	Bhadrak-Thakurmunda	.. 92	1	Ditto
32	Bhadrak-Chudamani	.. 40	1	Ditto
33	Bhadrak-Anandapur	.. 52	2	Ditto
34	Bhadrak-Aradi	.. 48	2	Ditto
35	Bhadrak-Baula via Bant	.. 86	1	Ditto
36	Bhadrak-Baula via Agarpada	47	1	Ditto
37	Bhadrak--Kandia	.. 51	1	Ditto

**Banner Scheme**

Since 1974-75 both the State Transport undertakings, viz., Orissa State Road Transport Corporation and Orissa Road Transport Company Ltd. went on incurring losses and all the measures taken to improve the position proved to be futile. A Banner Scheme was introduced on the 2nd October 1983 to check up the clandestine operation of private passenger vehicles. As per this scheme, all the private stage carriages were taken on hire by the corporation and was operated under the banner of OSRTC. But this scheme was proved to be failure and it was withdrawn on the 30th June 1985. However, before its withdrawal Modified Banner Scheme was introduced from the 11th June 1985 which was declared by the High Court of Orissa as illegal since the 10th April 1989 and it is no more in operation.

The income of OSRTC from 1983-84 to 1985-86 is given below.

Year (1)	Income*	
	Balেশwar Unit (2)	Bhadrak Unit (3)
1983-84 ..	24,71,191.23	49,19,332.89
1984-85 ..	25,86,895.56	44,17,401.00
1985-86 ..	44,90,043.83	62,82,910.00

**Fares and Freights**

Fares and freights effective from the 16th October 1985 are given below. \*\*

Category of Vehicles (1)	Rate of fares per person per kilometre (2)
Ordinary Bus ..	10 paise
Express Bus ..	12 paise
Superfast Bus ...	14 paise
Deluxe Bus ..	17 paise

\* Income includes passenger fare and freight.

\*\* The Orissa Gazette, Extraordinary, No. 1428, Cuttack, Wednesday, October 16, 1985,



The maximum rate of freight is 5 paise per 20 kilograms per kilometre subject to the free luggage facility up to 15 kilograms of luggage per passenger.

### **Railways**

The district is served by the Howrah-Madras, the Rupsa-Bangriposi and the Baleshwar-Nilagiri railway lines of the South-Eastern railway. Description of each of the railway lines is given below.

#### **Howrah-Madras line**

The Howrah-Madras line of the South-Eastern railway passes through the district in a south-western direction. The Kharagpur-Cuttack section of the main line was opened to traffic in 1899 and the Cuttack-Waltair section between 1893 and 1897. Waltair to Madras was, however, opened prior to that. The length of broad gauge double line in Baleshwar district is 140 km. The line enters the district near Lakshmannath Road and leaves the district at a short distance from Manjuri Road. There are 22 stations. Of these five are busy stations. These are Jaleshwar, Rupsa, Baleshwar, Soro and Bhadrak.

#### **Rupsa-Bangriposi line**

From Rupsa station a branch line, 89.36 km. in length runs westward to Mayurbhanj district. This narrow gauge branch line was constructed in two phases, (a) Rupsa to Baripada (52.16 km) opened to traffic on the 20th January, 1905 and (b) Baripada to Bangriposi (37.20 km.) on the 15th July 1920.

#### **Baleshwar-Nilagiri line**

This broad gauge railway line was constructed in 1944 by the army for defence purpose. The length of this line is 16.68 km. The cost involved in the construction is not known as it was constructed by the army during the Second World War. After war the army handed over the line to the Railway department. Since then the railway is used for carrying ballast, boulder and chips. It is not used for passenger traffic.

A list of railway stations in the district is given in Appendix III of this chapter.

### Passenger Traffic

The statement given below indicates the number of passengers travelling outward with money collected from them as fare, and the number of inward passengers for the year 1984-85 of important stations of the district.

Name of the station	Outward passengers		Number of inward passengers
	Number	Amount collected in rupees	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1 Jaleshwar ..	3,90,502	17,28,274	1,80,264
2 Baleshwar ..	3,76,444	54,69,241	1,03,077
3 Bhadrak ..	2,96,642	55,02,791	2,80,169

### Role of the railways in the economic life of the district

The South Eastern Railways has changed the economic condition of the people of Baleshwar district since 1899. It has accelerated agricultural and industrial development by providing transport facilities for the carriage of raw materials and finished products. Besides the industrialised zone in the immediate vicinity of Baleshwar, a number of saw mills, rice mills, brass and bell-metal industries, earthen and stoneware industries and other kinds of handicrafts have come up all along the rail routes. Apart from serving all these industries, the railway also contribute largely to the movement of rice, betel leaf and fish.

### Rail-road competition and regulation of transport

There are 42 road routes in the district. Most of the routes run parallel to the railway. Due to high density of population in the urban areas, both road and rail services are equally patronised by the people. The National Highway No. 5 and Major District Road No. 74 running, more or less, parallel to the South-Eastern Railways up to Lakshmannath Road, the northern most station within the district on that railway, shares with the latter a large volume of traffic. On other roads swifter motor transport is available in plenty. As a result, people are depending more on buses and trucks than on trains for movement of passenger and goods traffic. In important towns of the district Carry co., Tatanagar Transport, Transport Corporation of India, Economic Transport Organisation, Assam Bengal Roadways,

Great India Roadways, Cuttack Roadways, etc., are active. These road transport organisations help movement of goods faster than the railway. Municipal and Notified Area Council authorities are collecting huge amount of octroi tax from these road transport organisations.

### **Train Accidents**

Of the railway accidents in the district, a major accident occurred on the 8th March, 1964 in Baudpur railway station due to collision of Down Madras-Howrah Express train on a line occupied by a Goods train. In this accident 22 persons were killed and 110 persons were injured. A sum of Rs. 10,450 was paid by the Government as *ex gratia*. Railway property worth Rs. 6,07,100 was damaged.

### **Railway Over Bridge**

A large roadway overbridge of 568.90 metres long and 10.70 metres breadth has been constructed across the railway line at Baleshwar town at a cost of Rs. 1,74,41,701/-. It has been opened to traffic since 13th April 1984.

### **Waterways**

Baleshwar was neither linked by rail nor by good road with other parts of the country before 1899. It was, however, connected with maritime places inside and outside the country through its ports which had a very thriving trade in the past. Its long coastline extending over 137 km. had ancient ports and a number of minor ports having extensive maritime trade with Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, Laccadive, Maldiv islands, Ceylon and Mauritius. The adventurous trading people of Orissa brought glory and prosperity to their land in the past.

### **Ports**

Regarding ports in the district, O' Malley wrote "At the commencement of the 19th century Balasore was the only port of which Orissa could boast, and it was frequented chiefly by vessels from Madras, which put in for cargoes of rice, and by the Laccadive and Maldiv islanders from whom the cowries then used extensively for currency were obtained. The development of trade and the opening up of the country after the great famine of 1866 laid to the establishment of several other ports— and 30 years ago there were said to be seven principal ports— Subarnarekha, Saratha, Chhanuya (Chhauna), Balasore,

Laichanpur, Churaman and Dhamra. Owing to the silting of the river mouths, to the construction of the Coast Canal, which facilitated the silting while it provided a new waterway and to the abandonment of salt manufacture, some of these ports have ceased to exist, while the position of others has been changed. Thus Subarnarekha is now represented by Batanga and Mandhata on the Coast Canal and by the Barabatia on the Guchida river; Panchpara has taken the place of Saratha; Chhanuya, Laichanpur, and Churaman have ceased to exist; a new port has formed at Baliapal on the Matai river; and Chandbali has absorbed the trade of the old port of Dhamra, situated 15 miles lower down the river at the confluence of the Matai,

"Chandbali and Balasore are the only ports of any importance. In 1905-06, 163 vessels with a tonnage of 35,000 tons entered and 165 vessels with a tonnage of 36,500 tons cleared these ports, the value of the imports and exports being 28½ lakhs and 33½ lakhs respectively. The ports which trade with Chandbali and Balasore are Calcutta, the coast ports from Bombay on the west to Arakan on the east, and foreign ports, such as the Maldivé islands, Ceylon, and occasionally Mauritius. Nearly all of this trade, however, is focused at Chandbali, which is the chief port of Orissa; and Balasore is declining owing to the advent of the railway, which now practically monopolizes all the export trade.

"Passenger traffic is entirely confined to Chandbali, which is served by steamers of the India General Navigation and Railway Company and of the Rivers Steam Navigation Company. These steamer services ply thrice a week between Chandbali and Calcutta, and in 1905-06 brought 41,500 passengers, while 40,800 persons took their passages to Calcutta. Their number is gradually decreasing, as passengers prefer the railway journey to a sea voyage, especially during the south-west monsoon. There is a light at Chandipur and another on Shortt's Island at the mouth of the Dhamra<sup>1</sup>."

Ports mentioned by O'Malley have lost their importance. Churamani, a small port near Basudebpur is active to some extent. Fishing facility is available in Dhamara and Chandipur. Government have taken steps to develop these places. As a result, these two have become fishing ports. Details are given below.

#### **Dhamara Port**

Dhamara harbour is situated in Lat. 20°48' N and Long. 86°54' E on the northern bank of the river Dhamara.

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1. L. S. S. O'Malley, Bengal District Gazetteers, Balasore, 1907, pp. 144-45.

A 48 km. all weather road has been constructed connecting Dhamara with Basudebpur. Dhamara is now 110 km. by road from Baleshwar and 86 km. from Bhadrak.

The harbour is also approachable from Chandbali by the river Baitarani which after meeting the river Brahmani flows into the sea as river Dhamara.

Dhamara is 24 km. downstream of Chandbali. The river Dhamara meets the sea at Chandinipal which is 7 km. downstream of the harbour. The channels leading to the sea from Dhamara have a minimum of 3 metres depth at the lowest tide up to the Shortt's and Wheeler Islands which are situated about 20 km. from Dhamara. Beyond the Shortt's and Wheeler Islands the sea is deep.

On the Shortt's Island a masonry lighthouse was constructed as a navigational aid and a light was fixed in the year 1888. The Shortt's Island however is very unstable and has almost eroded away as a result of which the lighthouse now stands detached in the sea and is not approachable. The light has been discontinued.

The port is mainly used by fishing vessels. A 200 metres long and 8 metres wide landing quay (Concrete Landing Platform) has been constructed to facilitate loading and unloading of fish from the trawlers. 15 medium sized fishing trawlers can be simultaneously berthed alongside the landing quay. Since unloading the fish catch on a trawler does not take much time, more than 100 fishing trawlers can be handled at the landing quay in a day. The minimum depth alongside the landing quay is 3 metres at the lowest tide level.

Auction and packing halls have been constructed adjacent to the landing quay for packing the fish in ice and their further disposal. The port has its own water supply system. Pipe line has been laid over the landing quay for supplying drinking water to the fishing boats and trawlers. A boat repair yard with a slipway and a transfer track has been constructed for effecting underwater repairs to boats, trawlers and other floating vessels. A small port workshop has been set up to repair machinery parts of port crafts, fishing trawlers, etc. Port Signal and Storm Warning Stations are being constructed at Dhamara and Chandinipal.

M/s. Orissa Maritime and Chilka Area Development Corporation are going to set up a diesel outlet for supply of fuel and lubricants to the fishing trawlers. An ice factory has been set up in the private sector near Dhamara. Regular passenger launches ply between Dhamara, Talchua and Chandbali.

### Rivers

In 1907, O' Malley had given an account on navigation in rivers which is as follows. "Notwithstanding the numerous rivers which intersect the district, there is no great inland river traffic in Balasore. The reason for this, apparently, is that during the rains they become dangerous for navigation owing to the high floods they bring down; and during the rest of the year their current is sluggish and the volume of water small. The large rivers have sufficient water to enable boats to ply along the lower reaches, and there is a fair amount of traffic in tidal waters; but the other rivers are, on the whole, too shallow or too uncertain to be very largely used, and they do not possess any great value as trade routes. On this account, the use of boats is restricted, and the people have long been accustomed to carry on internal traffic by means of pack-bullocks and carts.

"The rivers most used for purposes of navigation are the Dhamra and the Baitarani, which connect Chandbali with the sea, but along the Baitarani, traffic is mainly confined to the lower tidal reaches; in the hot weather the upper reaches are very shallow, and the small depth of water allows only small boats to ply along them. Further north, the Matai, a river which connects with the Coast Canal at Charbatia and thence flows into the Dhamra at its junction with the Baitarani, is a good navigable channel affording communication between the Coast Canal and Chandbali, and also with Cuttack. It is a tidal river as far as Ruknadeipur, 8 miles east of Bhadrak, up to which point it is navigated by numerous country boats carrying goods to and from Chandbali. Neither the Salandi, however, nor the Rabo and Kapali carry any volume of water in the hot weather above the village of Kanpura half way between Bhadrakh and Chandbali; up to that place they are tidal, and country boats ply to and from Chandbali at all seasons of the year, while there is also a considerable amount of traffic with Bhadrak, which lies on the Salandi. The Burabalang again is tidal and navigable, ordinarily up to the town of Balasore and a little further during the rains while the Panchpara is tidal and navigable through out the year as far as Churakhai, 6 miles above Sulpatta. The Saratha is tidal as far as the Coast Canal; and the Subarnarekha, the most northerly of the Balasore rivers, is navigable for country boats up to the ferry of Kalikapur, 15 miles from its mouth".<sup>1</sup>

The district has retained the navigation system. But the volume of passengers and goods traffic in the rivers has declined to a great extent due to development of railway and roadways.

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<sup>1</sup> L. S. S. O' Malley, Bengal District Gazetteers, Balasore, 1907, p. 145.

### Canals

Referring to the navigation in canals O'Malley states, "The canal connecting the old port of Churaman with the Matai river has fallen into disrepair, but both the Coast Canal and High Level Canal are navigable. The Coast Canal, which connects the Hooghly at Geonkhali with the Matai at Charbatia, has a range of 71 miles, and the High Level Canal, which runs as far as Bhadrak, a length of 19 miles within the district. Two companies used to maintain a steamer service along the Coast Canal between Balasore and Chandbali; and there was a bi-weekly steamer transport service under the control of the Public Works Department along the High Level Canal between Bhadrak and Cuttack, but with the opening of the railway, passengers ceased to use the former route, and the merchants abandoned the latter means of transport. These steamer services have consequently been discontinued. Traffic along the canals is now confined to country boats and their number has decreased owing to the competition of the railway"<sup>1</sup>. Observation of O'Malley is partly correct. Recent observations about Coast canal, High Level canal, and Salandi canal are given in the subsequent paragraphs.

The Coast Canal was constructed in the year 1880. The length of this canal is 125 km. It starts from Nasarabad in Bhograi Block and ends at Charbatia lock of Matai river in Basudebpur Block. The canal passes through Bhograi lock, Jamkunda lock, Panchpara lock, Sulpatta lock, Nalkul lock, Chargouchia lock and Iram. The canal provides navigation facilities from Nasarabad up to Mandhata. The length of this portion is 30 km. The Executive Engineer, Baleshwar Irrigation Division, Baleshwar is in charge of maintenance. The cost of maintenance is Rs. 1.5 lakhs in a year.

The High Level Canal was constructed in 1871—79. It runs between Akhuapada and Bhadrak. On the way it passes through Bhandaripokhari. The length of this canal is 26.794 km. Presently navigation facilities is suspended. It is maintained by the Executive Engineer, Jajpur Irrigation Division, Jajpur. About 3 lakhs are spent for the maintenance of the canal in a year.

The length of Salandi canal is 473 kilometres which includes length of main canal, branch canal, distributary and minor canal. The starting point of canal is Bidyadharpur and the ending point is Basudebpur. It touches important places like Bidyadharpur, Sanakumari, Bhadrak, Basudebpur and Tihiri on the way. The year of construction of the canal is 1964. The canals are not navigable. The Salandi Canal Division, Bhadrak is maintaining the canal at a cost of Rs. 13,45,000/- in a year.

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1. L. S. S. O' Malley, Bengal District Gazetteers, 1907, pp. 145-46.

### Boats and Ferry Services

Eighty-eight country boats and three power boats are plying in 85 ferry ghats in Baleshwar district. The names of ferry ghats are given in Appendix IV of this Chapter.

### Bridges

Prior to Independence, most of the roads in the district were unbridged. This was a great bottle-neck in the development of road transport. After Independence, along with the construction of roads, large amount was spent for the construction of bridges. As a result, almost all the important roads in the district are now bridged. More bridges are under construction. The statement below gives the number of culverts and bridges on different categories of roads as on 31st March 1985\*.

Category of roads	Total number of culverts and bridges	Culverts with length up to 6 metres	Minor bridges with length above 6 metres but less than 30 metres	Major bridges with length of 30 metres and above
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
National Highways	120	60	49	11
State Highways	65	55	10	..
Major District Roads	670	537	108	25
Other District Roads	176	152	22	2
Classified Village Roads	215	187	26	2

### Airways and Aerodromes

There is no aerodrom or air-strip in the district. But helipads at Hatigarh (Raibania), Dhusuria (Looger Chhamouja), Panpur (Basudebpur), Baligan (near Chandbali), and Ghanteswar (Haldia) have been constructed for facilitating relief operation by the helicopters during flood and cyclone.

\*Chief Engineer, National Highways and Projects, Orissa, Bhubaneshwar and Chief Engineer, Roads, Orissa, Bhubaneshwar.



### Travel and Tourist Facilities

The State Government maintains at different places in the district three types of rest houses, viz., Circuit House—a rest-house of the first category, Inspection Bungalow—a rest-house of the second category and rest shed—a rest-house of the third category. Lodging facilities are provided mainly for officers of various Government departments touring the district in the course of their duties. Some of these are opened to the public but preference is given to Ministers, M. Ps., M. L. As. and government employees on duty. All types of rest-houses are generally electrified and well furnished. Details about the location of rest-houses in the district are given in Appendix V.

Dharmasalas and Sarais in villages and towns are the old-time houses where a traveller could rest for a temporary period. But Dharmasalas are not found in Baleshwar district. Only one Musafirkhana or Sarai is seen at Goladia in Chandbali police-station. It is attached to the Mazar of Hezrat Sayed Ahmed Saheb. It consists of four rooms where travellers coming to visit the Mazar stay. This Mazar attracts a large number of people throughout the year especially during the 'Urs' celebration in December every year. Nowadays such institutions have lost their importance as a number of hotels and lodgings with modern amenities are available in the district. Details about hotels and lodgings are given in Appendix VI of this chapter

### Post and Telegraph

Baleshwar Postal Division was formed on the first day of February 1953 with revenue districts of Baleshwar, Mayurbhanj and Kendujhar. A change of jurisdiction was made in 1966. Postal services of Mayurbhanj, Dhenkanal and Kendujhar districts were placed under Kendujhar Postal Division with headquarters at Kendujhar. Baleshwar Postal Division remained confined to only Baleshwar. For better administration, this postal division was divided into two divisions, viz., Baleshwar and Bhadrak with effect from 4th November 1980. Consequently Baleshwar and Nilagiri revenue subdivisions, remained under Baleshwar Postal Division and Bhadrak revenue subdivision under Bhadrak Postal Division. Besides Bhadrak revenue subdivision, 145 villages and 11 post-offices of Kendujhar district are tagged with Bhadrak Postal Division. The name of post-offices of Kendujhar district tagged are:—(1) Badrampas, (2) Chhenapadi, (3) Danar, (4) Gedma, (5) Inchol, (6) Maraigan, (7), Orali, (8) Sadanga, (9) Soso, (10) Podasinghudi, and (11) Hatadhi.

The total number of post-offices in Baleshwar Postal Division and Bhadrak Postal Division as on 31st March, 1985 are given below. A list of classified post-offices is also given in the Appendix VII

Sl. No.	Status of post-offices	Baleshwar Postal Division		Bhadrak Postal Division
		Baleshwar Head post-office	Jaleshwar Head post-office	Bhadrak Head post-office
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Head Office ..	1	1	1
2	Departmental Sub- post-offices ..	43	19	53
3	Extra Departmental Sub- post-offices ..	9	2	7
4	Departmental Branch post-offices ..	..	..	..
5	Extra Departmental Branch post-offices ..	197	174	286
Total ..		250	196	347

Area, population and number of villages served by the two postal divisions are given as per 1981 Census.

	Baleshwar Postal Division	Bhadrak Postal*
1 Area of Postal Division	3,706 sq. km.	2,786.9 sq.km.
2 Population of Postal Division	11,82,831	8,95,081
3 Total number of villages in the Postal Division	2,585	1,377
4 Frequency of delivery ..	All villages served daily.	All villages served daily.
5 Average area served per post-office	8.31 sq. km.	8.09 sq. km.
6 Average population served per post-office	2,652	2,215

\* The area lying under Baleshwar district (Bhadrak revenue subdivision only) has been given.

The statement given below shows the volume of postal business transacted during the year 1984-85.

Volume of postal business transacted	Baleshwar Postal Division		Bhadrak Postal Division		
	Number	Amount	Number	Amount	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
		Rs. P.		Rs. P.	
Money Order issued	..	132,506	127,52,796.04	355,670	10,012,206.82
Money Order paid	..	353,958	27,987,371.42	57,900	1,518,012.18
Savings Bank deposits	..	127,309	44,526,495.69	27,365	7,538,103.76
Savings Bank withdrawals	..	85,824	52,808,923.52	3,003	2,752,654.66
Certificates issued	..	15,058	48,65,240.00	23,600	3,56,700.00
Registered letters issued	..	494,972	..	1,10,962	..
Registered letters delivered	..	472,622	..	1,38,600	..
Registered parcels issued	..	5,730	..	26,535	..
Registered parcels delivered	..	15,887	..	36,000	..
Ordinary letters issued	..	32,207,080	..	76,652,344	..
Ordinary letters delivered	..	22,105,768	..	7,687,189	..
Telegrams issued	..	15,743	..	32,099	..
Telegrams delivered	..	9,820	..	30,150	..

### **Pin Code**

The Postal Index Number scheme, called PIN code in short, was introduced by the Posts and Telegraphs Department on 15th August 1972. Under the scheme, every Head Post Office and Sub-Post Office which delivers mail has been allotted an individual six digit number. The Branch Post Offices use the number allotted to their parent account Office. In a country with diverse languages and scripts, the introduction of the digital code has eased the problem of sorting mail by sorters. Further, there are several different towns in this country having the same name. The addition of the PIN code after the address enables the sorter to identify the destination correctly, thereby eliminating chances of mis-sending and consequent delay in receiving the articles. This has reduced the delay in transmission and hastened delivery.

The PIN code digits from left to right progressively pin point and locate the geographical position of the post office. The country has been divided into eight different zones. The first digit indicates the zone. The first three taken together indicate the sorting unit under which the office falls. The last three specify the particular delivery post office under the sorting unit. Thus first three digit 756 is allotted to the Baleshwar district. The PIN codes of three Head Post Offices of the district are (a) Baleshwar Head Post Office-756001 (b) Jaleshwar Head Post Office-756032 and (c) Bhadrak Head Post Office-756100.

### **Telephones**

There are 16 telephone exchanges in the district. All the important places of the district are connected with trunk lines. Baleshwar, the district headquarters, is linked with important places of the state. Details as on 31st March 1985 are given at page 332.

## DETAILS OF TELEPHONE EXCHANGES

Name of the telephone exchange	Year of establishment	Total No. of connections		Type of Exchange*	Capacity	Trunk circuits connected
		Main	Extension			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1. Baleshwar	1946	704	166	CBM	720	15
2. Bhadrak	1960	398	126	MAX-II	500	13
3. Soro	1965	56	..	SAX	100	2
4. Chandbali	1966	40	..	SAX	40	2
5. Jaleshwar	1969	45	1	SAX	50	2
6. Raj Nilagiri	1969	41	..	SAX	50	2
7. Basudebpur	1970	25	..	SAX	20	1
8. Rupsa	1972	20	..	SAX	25	1
9. Similia	1972	11	..	SAX	25	1
10. Basta	1973	50	..	SAX	40	2
11. Tihiri	1973	25	..	SAX	35	1
12. Khaira	1981	17	..	SAX	25	1
13. Dhamnagar	1982	18	..	SAX	25	1
14. Baliapal	1983	25	..	SAX	16	1
15. Mitrapur (Balgopalpur)	1984	10	..	SAX	25	1
16. Dehurda	1985	16	..	SAX	25	1

\*CBM-Central Battery Multiple  
SAX-Small Automatic Exchange

The table reveals that all the Tahasil headquarters possess telephone exchange facility in the district. There are 80 post-offices having public call facility under Baleshwar Postal Division and 40 under Bhadrak Postal Division. Point to point S. T. D. facility was available with S. T. D. code number 97 to Baleshwar town. But from March 1988, Baleshwar and Bhadrak have been connected to national S. T. D. network and their national access codes are 06782 and 06784 respectively.

### Telegraphs

There is only one departmental Telegraph Office at Baleshwar which is connected to Baripada, Cuttack, Bhubaneswar and Calcutta by high-speed telegraph system, i.e., teleprinter circuits.

List of post-offices having telegraph office and public call office in the district are given below.

Baleshwar Postal Division	Bhadrak Postal Division
1. Jaleshwar	1. Bhadrak
2. Deourda	2. Akhuapada
3. Kamarda	3. Chandbali
4. Basta	4. Dhamnagar
5. Rupsa	5. Tihiri
6. Raj Nilagiri	6. Basudebpur
7. Soro	7. Charampa
8. Remuna	8. Dolsahi
9. Kakhra	9. Similia
10. Haldipada	
11. Phulbani	
12. Chandipur	

### Radio and Wireless

The All-India Radio has no broadcasting station in the district.

There are 26 wireless stations in the district. These stations have been installed by the Police Department for smooth running of administration.

### FAX and Telex Services

FAX and Telex facilities are available at Baleshwar.

### Pay Phone

To provide employment to unemployed youth as well as better service of communication to public, in 1991, pay phone system was introduced in the district. The number of pay phone establishments and amount collected are given below:

Year	No. of pay phones	Amount Rs.
1991-92	13	2,07,894.00
1992-93	32	14,96,614.00

### Courier Service

Apart from government postal services, a number of private courier services are also operating in the district.

### Pigeon Service

The district has three pigeon lofts. Details are given below.

Location of pigeon lofts (1)	Cocks (2)	Hens (3)	Total (4)
Baleshwar	22	20	42
Basta	8	9	17
Chandbali	4	3	7
Total	34	32	66

Boomerang and static services are also available in the district. Details are given below.

### Boomerang Service

(1)

Baleshwar to Basta  
Baleshwar to Ayodhya  
Basta to Jamkunda  
Chandbali to Ghanteswar

### Static service

(2)

Kamarda to Basta  
Bhadrak to Baleshwar  
Baliapal to Baleshwar

### Organisations of owners and employers in the field of transport and communications

There are seven organisations in the field of transport and communications. They are registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926 and carry on trade union activities in the district for the benefit of workers. Details about the unions are given below as on 31st December 1985.

Registration number and date	Name and address of the Union	No. of members
(1)	(2)	(3)
978, dt. 8.1.1976	Baleshwar Rickshaw Chalak Sangha, C/o Trade Union Association Co-ordination Committee, Port Road, Bhadrak.	N. A.
1230, dt. 20.8.1979	Bhadrak Motor Transport Workers' Union, Charampa, Bhadrak.	210
1013, dt. 20.7.1976	North Baleshwar Private Motor Transport Employees Union, Jaleshwar.	52
171, dt. 18.1.1956	Orissa Motor Transport Workers' Union, Nayabazar, Baleshwar.	230
1312, dt. 15.1.1980	Orissa State Road Transport Corporation Employees Union, Baleshwar.	138
1253, dt. 15.1.1980	Rupsa Railway Junction Malpari-bahankari Mazdoor Sangha, Rupsa.	N. A.
1161, dt. 23.9.1978	State Transport Employees Union, Charampa, Bhadrak.	N. A.



## APPENDIX I

**Panchayat Samiti-wise length of roads in 1986-87**

Name of Panchayat Samiti	Length of roads in kilometres
(1)	(2)
1 Baleshwar Sadar ..	94.6
2 Baliapal ..	18.4
3 Bhograi ..	81.6
4 Bahanaga ..	91.4
5 Basta ...	37.2
6 Bhadrak ..	89.0
7 Bant ..	95.8
8 Basudebpur ...	48.6
9 Bhandaripokhari ...	40.2
10 Chandbali ...	92.0
11 Dhamnagar ...	130.8
12 Jaleshwar ...	73.6
13 Khaira ...	199.0
14 Similia ...	149.0
15 Soro ...	86.6
16 Remuna ...	35.4
17 Oupada ...	44.8
18 Nilagiri ..	98.6
19 Tihiri ...	210.0
Total ..	1,716.8

## APPENDIX II

**Length of Grama Panchayat roads in 1986—87**

Name of Panchayat Samitis	No. of Grama Panchayats	Length of Grama Panchayat roads in kilometres
(1)	(2)	(3)
1 Baleshwar Sadar ..	19	105
2 Baliapal ..	19	145
3 Bhograi ..	21	164
4 Bahanaga ..	11	54
5 Basta ..	14	111
6 Bhadrak ..	23	108
7 Basudebpur ..	25	283
8 Bant ..	15	241
9 Bhandaripokhari ..	13	82
10 Chandbali ..	21	227
11 Dhamnagar ..	22	140
12 Jaleshwar ..	21	32
13 Khaira ..	17	183
14 Similia ..	10	345
15 Soro ..	14	77
16 Remuna ..	20	206
17 Oupada ..	10	115
18 Nilagiri ..	22	142
19 Tihiri ..	20	263
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>3,023</b>

## APPENDIX III

**Railway Stations in Baleshwar District*****Howrah-Madras line***

1. Lakshmannath Road
2. Jaleshwar
3. Rajghat
4. Amarda Road
5. Basta
6. Nuagan-Mayurbhanj Road
7. Rupsa
8. Haldipada
9. Baleshwar
10. Nilagiri Road
11. Khantapada
12. Panpana
13. Bahanaga Bazar
14. Soro
15. Sabira
16. Markona
17. Ranital
18. Bhadrak
19. Baudpur
20. Kapali Road
21. Kenduapada
22. Manjuri Road



[illegible]

(1)	(2)	(3)
5. Dhamnagar	.. Uteipur Village Paitipur Ghat	Baitarani river
	Anandapur village	Baitarani river
	Panasa Mahara Ghat	
	Mishrapur village Ghat	Baitarani river
	Kantapari village	Baitarani river
	Sandhapur Ghat	
	Jayantara village	Baitarani river
	Danguapatna Ghat	
	Gopabandhu Nagar	Kochila river
	Astaka Ghat	(Baitarani river branch)
	Pangata Ghat	Kochila river
		(Baitarani river branch)
	Balipatna Ghat	Kochila river
		(Baitarani river branch)
	Sarei Ghat	Reb river
	Falapur Ghat	Genguti river
	Dobal Ghat (during flood)	Ditto
	Athagadia Ghat	Baitarani and Kochila joint
	Saillo Ghat	Kochila river
	Duttapara Ghat	Baitarani river
	Naranpur Ghat	Ditto
	Kasimpur Ghat	Reb river
	Rameswarpur Ghat	Genguti river
6. Bhandaripokhari	Behera Patra Ghat	Baitarani river
	Balighai Ghat Korakora	Ditto
	Raghuraipur Ghat	Ditto
7. Soro	.. Babura Ghat	Kansbans river
	Kharakhia	Ditto
8. Basta	.. Choramara Ghat	Subarnarekha
	Gobardhanpur Ghat	Ditto
	Darabudi Ghat	Ditto

(1)	(2)	(3)
9. Basudebpur	.. Dadhibamanpur	Matai river
	Charibatia	Ditto
	Khantakhuda	Ditto
	Baliapal	Ditto
10. Remuna	.. Baitakank Ghat	Sone
	Purkhi Ghat	Sone
	Hatiagandha Ghat	Sone
	Pandasahi Ghat	Sone
	Chakulia Ghat	Sone
	Jagannathpur Ghat	Sone
11. Chandbali	.. Panchutikiri Ghat	Matai river
	Mahadev Nali Ghat	Ditto
	Talchua Ghat	Baitarani
	Bansada and Jantuali Ghat	Matai river
	Matto—Chaudhuri Ghat	Ditto
	Kulhi Ghat	Baitarani
	Aradi Ghat	Ditto
	Pankitintara Ghat	Salandi
	Bodak Ghat	Baitarani
	Bodak Ghat	Baitarani
	Dhanakhania Ghat	Salandi river
	Chandankunda Ghat	Gochia river
	Baliapal Ghat	Matai river
	Dudhia Ghat	Ditto
	Hatathutha Ghat	Ditto
	Terjana Ghat	Terjana river
	Paleisahi Ghat	Ditto
12. Baliapal	.. Rasalpur Ghat	Subarnarekha river
	Kudmansing Ghat	Ditto
	Pathar Ghat	Ditto
	Chaumukha Ghat	Ditto
13. Bhadrak	.. Aranapal Ghat	Nalia river

## APPENDIX V

## List of Circuit Houses, Inspection Bungalows and Rest sheds

(1) Name of Tahasils	(2) Circuit House/Inspection Bungalow and Rest shed	(3) Location	(4) Maintained by
Dhamnagar	.. Inspection Bungalow Rest shed	Akhupada Bhandaripokhari	N. H. 5 N. H. 5
Jaleshwar	.. Inspection Bungalow Inspection Bungalow Rest shed Rest shed Rest shed Rest shed	Jaleshwar Kamarda Raibania Dahamunda Betagram Huguli	P. W. D. ( R. & B. ) P. W. D. ( R. & B. ) Revenue Department Revenue Department Revenue Department Revenue Department
Soro	.. Inspection Bungalow Inspection Bungalow Inspection Bungalow Rest shed Rest shed Rest shed Rest shed	Khanatapada Markona Dhobagadia Gopalpur Soro Khaira Kupari	N. H. 5 N. H. 5 P. W. D. ( R. & B. ) Revenue Department Revenue Department Revenue Department Revenue Department

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Basta	Rest shed	Markona	Revenue Department
..	Inspection Bungalow	Haldipada	P. W. D. (R. & B.)
	Inspection Bungalow	Basta	P. W. D. (R. & B.)
	Inspection Bungalow	Jamsuli	P. W. D. (R. & B.)
	Inspection Bungalow	Baliapal	P. W. D. (R. & B.)
Bhadrak	..	Bhadrak	P. W. D. (R & B.)
	Inspection Bungalow	Bant	P. W. D. (R & B.)
	Inspection Bungalow	Tihiri	P. W. D. (R & B.)
	Inspection Bungalow	Sabranga	P. W. D. (R & B.)
Chandbali	..	Chandbali	P. W. D. (R & B.)
	Inspection Bungalow	Kharang	P. W. D. (R & B.)
	Inspection Bungalow	Matto	Revenue Department
	Inspection Bungalow	Gadi	Revenue Department
	Rest shed	Ghanteswar	Revenue Department
	Rest shed	Nilagiri	
Nilagiri	..	Nilagiri	
	Circuit House	Oupada	
	Indian— Guest house	Santaragadia	
	Rest shed		
	Rest shed		

(Contd.)



(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Rest shed	Daripokhari	
	Rest shed	Panchalingeswar	
	Rest shed	Gopalpur	
	Rest shed	Berhampur	
	Circuit House	Baleswar	
Baleswar	Inspection Bungalow	Baleswar	P. W. D. ( R & B )
	Inspection Bungalow	Baleswar	P. W. D. ( R & B )
	Inspection Bungalow called "Casurina House"	Chandipur	Forest Department
	Inspection Bungalow called "Tourist Bungalow"	Chandipur	Tourism Department
	Inspection Bungalow	Chandipur	P. W. D.
	Rest shed	Talapada	Revenue Department
	Inspection Bungalow	Basudebpur	Revenue Department
	Rest shed	Kulikhati	Irrigation Department
	Rest shed	Naikanidih	Irrigation Department
Basudebpur	Rest shed	Balimund	P. W. D. ( R & B )

(Concid.)

## APPENDIX VI

## List of Hotels and Lodgings\*

Place	Name of Hotel/ Lodging	Telephone	No. of rooms		Total beds
			Single	2/3/4 seated room seated bed room	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Baleshwar	Hotel Abhiseka	Available	3	17/0/0	37
	Moonlight	Available	12	8/0/0	28
	Union Hotel & Lodge	Available	4	5/1/0	17
	Hotel Swarnachuda	Available	2	22/2/1	56
	Hotel Kalinga	Available	11	8/0/0	27
	Amrit lodge	Nil	10	3/0/0	16
	Sahu lodge	Nil	3	7/0/0	24
	Sagarika lodge	Nil	..	3/0/1	10
	J. K. Lodge	Nil	11	3/1/0	20
	Srikrishna lodge	Nil	28	14/2/0	62
	Hotel Veena	Available	7	8/0/0	23

\*Tourist Office, Baleshwar.

Cont.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Chandipur	Anandamayee Hotel (P) Ltd.	Available	--	31/3/4	109
	Santinivas	Nil	--	5/1/1	29
	Badsaha Lodge	Nil	..	4/0/0	8
	Dipak Nivas	Nil	..	0/0/1	4
	Hotel Kashmir at Bafaramgarhi	Nil	..	10/1/0	23
Bhadrak	Firdous Lodge	Available	12	6/1/0	27
	Saroj Lodge	Nil	14	1/0/0	16
	Bhadrak Lodge	Nil	14	6/1/0	29
	United Lodge	Nil	5	4/0/0	13
	Hotel Highway	Available	5	13/0/0	31
	Hotel Goutam	Ditto	5	3/0/0	11
Remuna	Pilgrim Lodging	Ditto	..	4/0/0	8
Chandbali	Puspak Lodge	Nil	10	5/0/0	20
Jaleshwar	Hotel Srikrishna	Nil	3	3/1/0	12

(Concl'd.)

## APPENDIX VII

**Classified list of Post Offices of Baleshwar Postal  
Division as on the 31st March 1985**

**Symbols:**

- \*— Cash Office
- E— Experimental Branch Office
- A— Class I Sub-Post Office
- B— Class II Sub-Post Office
- C— Class III Sub-Post Office
- RS— Railway Station
- TPO— Town Branch Office
- CO— Combined Office
- ND— No delivery office
- PCO— Public Call Office
- EDSO— Extra Departmental Sub-Post Office
- TSO— Town Sub-Post Office
- LSG— Lower Selection Grade Post Office
- S— Branch Post Offices vested with SB power
- MPO— Mobile Post Office

**BALESHWAR HEAD POST OFFICE (GRADE-I) H. O., PCO\***  
**PIN-756001**

**ANANTAPUR S. O. (A)-CO/PCO PIN-756046**

<b>1</b>	<b>Padhuan</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>S/CO/PCO</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Barhapur</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Gud</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Jagannathpur Bachhada</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Kharasahapur</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>S/CO/PCO</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Kumarpur</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>ES</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Kuruda-Soro</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Pakhara</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Sahaspur</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Sankhapudadiha</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Tentei</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>ES</b>

**ABHANA S. O. (C)**  
**TPO-O-246, PIN—756051**

1	Bishnupur	..	S/CO/PCO
2	Rupkhanda	..	S

**AZIMABAD NDTSO (C)**  
**PCO(TPO-O-980) PIN-756001**

**BAHANAGA S. O. (B) CO/PCO**  
**PIN-756042**

1	Bidubazar	..	ES/MPO
2	Gandsthapur	..	S
3	Iswarpur	..	S
4	Kochiakoili	..	S
5	Kandagaradi	..	ES
6	Santaragadia Bazar	..	S
7	Saud	..	S
8	Thalsada	..	S/ MPO

**BALESHWAR COURT NDTSO (A)/PCO PIN-756001**

**BALESHWAR RS NDTSO (C)/PCO PIN-756001**

**BARABATI NDTSO (C)/PCO**  
**PIN—756003**

**BALARAMGARHI EDSO CO/PCO (TPO—0—884)**  
**PIN—756057**

**BASTA S. O. (A) CO/PCO PIN-756029**

1	Baharda Bazar	..	S
2	Barunagadia	..	S
3	Bidyadharpur	..	S
4	Dhobachakuri	..	S
5	Jamalpur	..	S
6	Khadikapada	..	S

7	Kusudiha	..	ES
8	Machhadiha	..	ES/PCO
9	Mandrukula	..	S/PCO
10	Mathani	..	S/CO
11	Pandurungi	..	S
12	Srirampur	..	S/CO
13	Utikiri	..	ES/MPO

**BHAUNRIABAD EDSO CO/PCO (TPO-O-837)**

**PIN-756071**

**CHACKBARAHAPUR (C) (TPO-O-719)**

**PIN-756055**

**CHACK JAGANNATHPUR EDSO CO/PCO (TPO-O-567)**

**PIN-756053**

**CHANDIPUR LSG SO CO/PCO**

**PIN-756025**

1	Gudupai	..	S/PCO
2	Hidigan	..	ES/PCO
3	Parikhi	..	S/PCO
4	Srikona	..	ES/CO/PCO

**DANDIKA EDSO PCO (TPO-O-662)**

**PIN-756074**

**F. M. COLLEGE NDTSO (C)/PCO**

**PIN-756001**

**GOPALPUR S. O. (B) CO/PCO**

**PIN-756044**

1	Aruhabad	..	S/MPO/CO
2	Dwarika	..	S
3	Jagannathpur	..	S
4	Jangeswarpada	..	S/MPO

5	Kalyani	..	S/MPO
6	Karanjabindha	..	S
7	Maharudrapur	..	ES
8	Pandasuni	..	S/MPO
9	Rahaniaganj	...	S
10	Srijang	..	S/MPO
11	Talkurunia	..	S

HALADIAPADA EDSO/PCO (TPO-O-687)  
PIN-756073

HALADIPADA S. O. (B) CO/PCO  
PIN-756037

1	Alumeda	..	S
2	Ambapunja	..	S
3	Bahabalpur	..	ES/MPO
4	Duani	..	S
5	Chak Sartha	..	ES
6	Chhanua	..	S/CO/PCO
7	Digida	..	ES/MPO
8	Dublagadi	..	S
9	Jhinkiria	..	ES
10	Nagram	..	S/MPO
11	Udangi	...	S
12	Olipur	..	ES/MPO
13	Panchupada	...	ES
14	Saragan	...	ES
15	Sulpata	...	S/MPO



ISSANNAGAR NDTSO (C) PCO  
PIN-756001

KHAIRA S. O. (B) CO/PCO  
PIN-756048

1	Arjunpur	...	S
2	Fatepur	..	S
3	Nachhipur	...	ES
4	Rai Ramchandrapur	...	ES

**KHANTAPARA SO (B) CO/PCO**  
**PIN-756043**

1	Jirtal	..	S
2	Kasba-Jaipur	..	S
3	Kuligan	..	S
4	Nachinta	..	S
5	Padagan	..	S
6	Panapana	..	S
7	Pratapada	..	S
8	Saraswatia	..	ES/MPO

**KHIRACHORA GOPINATH EDSO (TPO-O-699)**  
**PIN-756018**

**KUPARI (C) CO/PCO (TPO-O-1018)**  
**PIN-756059**

1	Kaithagadia	..	S
2	Panichhatra	..	S
3	Sindarpur	...	ES

**KURUDA S. O. (C) (TPO-O-1009)**  
**PIN-756056**

1	Balia	...	S
2	Chhanpur	...	S
3	Genguti	...	S

**MAKALPUR NDTSO (C) (TPO-O-362)**  
**PIN-756003**

**MITRAPUR S. O. (B) CO/PCO**  
**PIN-756020**

1	Begunia	...	ES/MPO
2	Dharaganj	—	S
3	Durgadevi	...	S
4	Machhua	..	ES
5	Mahisapata	..	S



6	Nuapadhi	..	S
7	Patna	..	ES
8	Pondal	..	S
9	Rasalpur	..	S/MPO
10	Sathilobalabalia	..	ES
11	Singiri	..	ES
12	Tikirapal	...	S

MOBARAKPUR NDTSO (C) (TPO-O-880)  
PIN-756045

MOTIGANJ LSG S. O. /PCO  
PIN-756003

1	Badasindhia	..	S
2	Dahapada	..	S
3	Phlwar-Kasaba	..	S
4	Ghudapada	...	S
5	Haripur	..	ES
6	Nizampur	..	ES
7	Sahupada	...	S
8	Sindhla	—	S

NAYABAZAR BALESHWAR NDTSO(C) (PCO)  
PIN-756 001

NILAGIRI COLLEGE NDTSO (C) (PCO) (TPO-O-874)  
PIN-756040

OUPADA S. O. (C) CO/PCO  
PIN-756 049

1	Aghirapada	..	ES
2	Darkholi	...	S
3	Khalra-Gobindpur	...	S
4	Sarugan	...	S

**RAJ NILAGIRI S. O. (C) CO/PCO**  
**PIN-756040**

1 Chhatrapur	...	S/CO/PCO
2 Dhubsila	..	S
3 Garadlhi	..	S
4 Hatasahi	..	S
5 Jemuna	...	ES
6 Kalakada	..	S
7 Kahalia	..	ES/MPO
8 Mirigini	..	ES
9 Podasul	..	S
10 Pithahata	..	ES
11 Shyamsundarpur	...	S
12 Telipal	..	ES
13 Kishorechandrapur	..	ES

**RASALPUR S. O. (C) CO /PCO**  
**PIN-756021**

1 Bankeswar	..	S/MPO
2 Bardhanpur	...	S
3 Bhimpur	..	ES/MPO
4 Inchudi	...	S/CO/PCO
5 Jaydevkasaba	...	ES/PCO
6 Kuanarpur	...	ES/MPO

**REMUNA S. O. (A) CO/PCO**  
**PIN-756019**

1 Armala	...	S
2 Badpal	...	S
3 Gobindpur	..	S
4 Gududapatna	...	S
5 Januganj	...	S
6 Kanrali	...	S
7 Kasimpur	...	S
8 Naraharipur	...	ES
9 Somnathpur	...	ES
10 Udambar ]	...	S

**RESERVE POLICE LINE NDT EDSO (TPO-O-164)**  
**PIN-756 001**

**RAJ BERHAMPUR S. O. (C) CO/PCO (TPO-O-918)**  
**PIN-756 058**

1 Arahandha	..	ES/MPO
2 Upardiha	..	ES
3 Tentulia	...	ES

**RUPSA S.O. (B) CO/PCO**  
**PIN-756 028**

1 Anka	..	ES
2 Bamada	..	ES
3 Hatiadiha	..	ES
4 Lachhmankhunta	..	S
5 Nalbahar	..	S
6 Nuagan	..	ES/MPO
7 Rautparha	..	S/MPO

**SADANANDAPUR EDSO/PCO (TPO-O-665)**  
**PIN-756054**

**SAHADEBKHUNTA NDTSO (C) /PCO**  
**PIN-756 001**

**SAHID PARK NDTSO (B) /PCO**  
**PIN-756 003**

**SAJANAGADA S.O. (B) CO/ PCO**  
**PIN-756 041**

1 Jamudiha	..	S/PCO
2 Jadibali	..	S
3 Kansa	..	ES/CO/PCO
4 Kharadiha	..	ES/MPO
5 Matiali	..	S/PCO
6 Naranpur	..	S/MPO
7 Nimpal	..	S
8 Narasinghpur	..	ES
9 Tenda	...	ES

**SANATTA NDTSO PCO (C) (TPO-0-363)**  
**PIN-756 040**

**SARTHA EDSO CO/PCO (TPO-0-748)**  
**PIN-756 077**

**SERGAR S. O. (C)CO/PCO (TPO-0-883)**  
**PIN-756060**

1 Bahal	..	S
2 Barunsingh	..	S/MPO
3 Khannagar	..	S

**SORO LSG S.O. CO/PCO**  
**PIN-756045**

1 Angula	..	S/PCO
2 Attapur	..	S
3 Bainanda Mangarajpur	...	S
4 Dahisada	...	S
5 Ghasua	..	S
6 Hatikholia	..	ES
7 Janhia	..	S
8 Kedarpur	..	S
9 Kudei-Nadigan	..	S/CO/PCO
10 Kesaripur	..	S
11 Mahumuhan	..	S
12 Mangalpur	..	S
13 Mulising	..	ES
14 Radhaballavpur	..	S
15 Sabira R. S.	..	ES/CO/PCO
16 Sajanpur	..	S/MPO
17 Santhapada	..	S
18 Sarasankha	..	S/MPO
19 Similia	—	ES
20 Singakhunta	..	ES
21 Sirapur	..	S
22 Wada	..	ES



**SORO BAZAR NDTSO (C) (TPO-0-34)**

**PIN-756 045**

**SORO COLLEGE (ITUA) NDTSO (C) (TPO-0-648)**

**PIN-756 045**

**SOVARAMPUR NDTSO (C) PCO (TPO-0-975)**

**PIN-756 001**

**SRIKANTAPUR NDSO (B) PCO (TPO-0-CK-517)**

**PIN-756 001**

**SUNHAT S.O. (B) CO/PCO**

**PIN-756 002**

1 Manikula	..	S
2 Punjibag	..	S
3 Puruna Baleshwar	..	S
4 Ranasahi	..	S/CO/PCO
5 Sahada	..	S
6 Saragan	..	S/PCO

**TURIGARIA S. O. (A) CO/PCO**

**PIN-756 047**

1 Achhutipur	..	ES
2 Badapokhari	..	S
3 Banabishnupur	..	S
4 Dagarpada	..	S
5 Dalanga	..	ES/MPO
6 Gandibed	..	S/CO
7 Kurunta	..	S
8 Mahatipur	..	S
9 Makhanpur	..	S
10 Manipur	..	S
11 Sampei	..	S
12 Saundia	..	ES/MPO

**UTTARESWAR NDTSO (C) (TPO-0-908)  
PIN-756 045**

**JALESHWAR H. O. (GRADE-II) CO/PCO \*  
PIN-756 032**

1 Alalpur	..	S/MPO
2 Ambiliatha	..	S/MPO
3 Bartana	..	ES
4 Chamargan	..	S/MPO
5 Chhamouza	..	S
6 Chormara	..	ES/MPO
7 Gopa	..	S
8 Jamalpur	..	S
9 Keshpura	..	ES
10 Lakshmannath	..	S/PCO
11 Mohamadnagar Patna	..	S
12 Malipal	..	S
13 Paikasida	..	S
14 Rairamchandrapur	..	S/MPO
15 Rajpur	..	ES/CO/PCO
16 Salikotha	..	S
17 Sikharpur	..	S



**AMARDA ROAD (B) CO/PCO  
PIN-756 030**

1 Chasipada	..	S
2 Chinchalgadia	..	ES
3 Dhitpura	..	ES
4 Gudikhal	..	S
5 Gopinathpur	..	ES
6 Kuldiha	..	S
7 Mahammadnagar	..	S

**BALIAPAL S. O. (A) CO/PCO**  
**PIN-756 026**

1 Asti	..	S
2 Bedhapur	..	S
3 Bishnupur	..	S
4 Dalua	..	S
5 Ghantiari	..	S
6 Jamkunda	..	S/PCO
7 Jharpimpal	..	S
8 Panchurukhi	..	S
9 Paschimbad	..	S/MPO
10 Rella	..	ES

**BHOGRAI S. O. (B) CO/PCO**  
**PIN—756 038**

1 Bartana	..	S
2 Iswarpur	...	ES/MPCO
3 Jairampur	..	S/PCO
4 Khalabadia	..	S
5 Malaruan	..	S
6 Pithapur	..	S
7 Rasalpur-Bhograi	..	S

**DAHAMUNDA S O. (C) (TPO-O-465)**  
**PIN—756 079**

1 Aruhabruti	..	S
2 Baiganabari	..	ES
3 Barbatia	..	ES
4 Nayapalli	..	ES
5 Nilpura	..	ES/MPO
6 Rasalpur	..	ES

**DARADA S. O. (C) CO/PCO**  
**PIN— 756022**

1	Barada	..	S
2	Chakrada	..	S
3	Kothia	..	S
4	Kothpada	..	ES
5	Mukulish	..	S/CO

**DEHURDA LSG S. O. CO/PCO**  
**PIN— 756036**

1	Alalbindha	..	S
2	Baitpur	..	S/CO
3	Batgram ghat	..	S
4	Deulahat	..	S
5	Gopinathpur	..	ES
6	Guneibasan	..	S
7	Haridaspur	..	S
8	Jaleshwar	..	S/MPO
9	Kumarjalina	..	S
10	Kumbharmuli	..	S
11	Mankunda	..	S
12	Narayanpur	..	S
13	Nimatpur	..	S/MPO
14	Nisanpur	..	S/MPO
15	Pasarbindha	..	S
16	Soharia	..	ES/MPO
17	Sukhasandhapatna	..	S/MPO
18	Sultanpur	..	S/MPO
19	Tarapur	..	S/MPO



**DHANSIMULIA S. O. (C) (TPO-O-1041)**  
**PIN—756084**

1	Netua	..	S
2	Sugo	..	S



## PHULBANI S. O. (B) CO/PCO

PIN—756037

1	Ausha	..	S
2	Bichitrapur	..	S
3	Nafrai	..	S
4	Narayan Mohanty Padia	..	S
5	Sankhari	..	S/MPO
6	Saradhapur	..	S
7	Tukurihazara	..	S

## HATIGARH S. O. (B) CO/PCO

PIN—756033

1	Ashabandha	..	ES
2	Baradiha	..	ES/CO/PCO
3	Bhandarkuli	..	ES/MPO
4	Chudamanipur	..	S
5	Kankei	..	S
6	Kabataghathi	..	S
7	Khanabad	..	S
8	Khuard	..	S
9	Mahuduma	..	S/MPO
10	Mankidia	..	ES
11	Mununia	..	S/MPO
12	Raibania	..	S/CO/PCO
13	Ulmara	..	S/CO/PCO



## IRDA S. O. (C) PCO (TPO-O-73)

PIN—756080

1	Badhan	..	S
2	Kainagari	..	ES/MPO
3	Machhada	..	ES
4	Nimpada	..	S
5	Panasa	..	S
6	Sahada	..	S/CO/PCO

## JALESHWAR R. S. NDTSO (C) (TPO-O-512)

PIN—756 032

**JAMSULI S. O. (C) CO/PCO (TPO-O-682)****PIN—756081**

1	Baliapati	..	S
2	Dundukut	..	S
3	Gilajodi	..	S
4	Nabara	..	S
5	Naikudi	..	S
6	Paunskulia	..	S
7	Putura	..	S
8	Remu	..	S
9	Tadada	..	S

**KAKHRA S. O. (B) CO/PCO (TPO-O-471)****PIN—756039**

1	Bajitpur	..	S/MPO
2	Barabatia Bazar	..	S/MPO
3	Chandaneswar	..	S/PCO
4	Naskarpur	..	S
5	Udayaganjpatna	..	ES

**KAMARDA S. O. (A) CO/PCO PIN—756035**

1	Baharda	..	S
2	Balimi	..	S
3	Baunsadiha	..	ES
4	Belda	..	S
5	Chakaisab	..	ES
6	Chandakusumi	..	ES
7	Dakhinanadabani	..	ES
8	Dahunda	..	S/MPO
9	Dubsahi	..	S
10	Durpal	..	S
11	Kachuadi	..	S
12	Karihanda	..	S
13	Katisahi	..	S/MPO

14	Khairada	..	S
15	Kusuda	...	S
16	Madhupur	...	S
17	Mohagab	..	S/MPO
18	Nachinda	..	S
19	Purusottampur	..	ES
20	Putina	..	S
21	Uplahat	..	S

**LAKSHMANNATH ROAD EDSO (TPO-O-664)**  
**PIN—756076**

**NAMPO S. O. (C) CO/PCO PIN—756034**

1	Ambadiha	..	S
2	Budhakusumi	..	S/CO
3	Demuria	..	S/MPO
4	Ikida	..	ES
5	Kamarsalia	..	S
6	Khalina	..	S
7	Khuluda	..	S
8	Masanbadia	..	S



**NAYABAZAR JALESHWAR NDTSO (C) (CO/PCO) (TPO-O-102)**  
**PIN—756032**

**NANGALESWAR S. O. (B) CO/PCO PIN—756024**

1	Badakaurada	..	ES
2	Balarampur	..	S
3	Bulang	..	S
4	Jambhirai	..	S
5	Kasafal	..	S/PCO
6	Mandhata bazar	..	S
7	Nadabani	..	S
8	Nuagan	..	S
9	Panchupalli	..	S
10	Saudi	..	S

**PRATAPPUR S. O. (C) (TPO-0-1000)****PIN-756 083**

1	Bagada	..	ES
2	Badas	..	S/MPO
3	Baliapal-Narayanpur	..	S
4	Betagadia	..	ES
5	Chandmani	..	ES
6	Chaumukh	..	S/PCO/MPO
7	Dagara	..	S
8	Dangapita	..	ES
9	Jagai	..	S/MPO
10	Karanja	..	S

**SINGLA S. O. (B) CO/PCO****PIN-756 023**

1	B.Katisahi	..	S/MPO
2	Baldandia	..	ES
3	Belli	..	S
4	Devog	..	ES/MPO
5	Gadasahi-Baliapal	..	S/MPO
6	Ghantua	..	S
7	Jathia	..	S
8	Khalmuhani	..	ES
9	Kumbhari	..	S/MPO
10	Machharanka-Simllia	..	ES
11	Nepura	..	S
12	Srirampur Road	..	S/PCO

**VELLORA EDSO CO/PCO (TPO-0-691)****PIN-756 078**

**BHADRAK POSTAL DIVISION AS ON 31ST MARCH 1985.**  
**BHADRAK HEAD POST OFFICE GRADE I H.O. \*C. O. /PCO.**

**PIN-756100**

1	Bahudarada	..	S
2	Balabhadrapur	..	S(MPO)
3	Bhadrak by pass	..	S
4	Garadpur	..	S
5	Gelpur	..	S(MPO)
6	Jalmandua	..	ES
7	Kalai	..	S(MPO)
8	Korkora	..	S
9	Mouda	..	S
10	Nalanga	..	S
11	Ramnabami Betada	..	S
12	Tihiri	..	ES

**ADA S. O. (B)**

**PIN-756 134**

1	Antara	..	S(MPO)
2	Aliha	..	S
3	Arakhpur	..	§
4	Baghua	..	S
5	Berada	..	S
6	Chandrapara	..	ES
7	Damodarpur	..	S
8	Dungura	..	S
9	Garsangha	..	ES
10	Jalanga gandibeda	..	S
11	Mirzapur	..	S

**AKHUAPADA S. O. CO/PCO (B)**

**PIN-756122**

1	Kumbharia	..	ES/PCO
2	Manjuri	..	S
3	Nerada	...	ES
4	Paramanandapur	..	S (MPC)

**ARADI S.O. CO/PCO (C)**  
**PIN-756138**

1	Batul	...	ES
2	Bhulnpur	..	ES
3	Nandapur	..	ES
4	Olaga	..	S
5	Sathibankura	..	S(MPO)

**ARNAPAL S. O. CO/PCO (B)**  
**PIN-756116**

1	Anandabazar	..	S(MPO)
2	Bisnupurbindha	..	ES
3	Khaparpada	..	ES
4	Langudi	..	S/CO
5	Lunia	..	S
6	Nandore	..	S
7	Sahidnagar	..	S(MPO)
8	Sriganga	..	S
9	Susua	..	S



**ARASA S. O. PCO (C)**  
**PIN-756139**

**ASURALI S. O. PCO (C)**  
**PIN-756137**

1	Fatepur	..	ES(MPO)
2	Gadiali	..	ES
3	Govindpur	...	S
4	Kurua	...	S
5	Kasimpur	...	S

**ADHUNAE D S O./PCO (TPO-O-652)**  
**PIN-756140**

**BANT S. O. CO/PCO (A)**  
**PIN-756114**

1	Adalpank	..	S
2	Adia	..	S
3	Andhia	..	ES
4	Bangirpadi	..	S
5	Begana	..	S
6	Chuyalsingh	..	S
7	Dolapadi	..	S
8	Ganijang	..	S(MPO)
9	Kantia	..	S
10	Padhanparha	..	ES
11	Ramchandrapur	..	ES(MPO)
12	Sendtira	..	S(MPO)
13	Tillo Barsahi	..	S/PCO

**BARAPADA S.O. CO/PCO (C)**  
**PIN-756113**

1	Chadia	..	S
2	Kaupur	..	S
3	Nalgohira	..	ES
4	Ramakrishnapur	..	S(MPO)

**BARHAT TRILOCHANPUR S. O. CO/PCO (B)**  
**PIN-756115**

1	Anijo	..	S
2	Bartana	..	S
3	Gopinathpur Tejpur	..	ES
4	Haripur	..	S
5	Mohantipada	..	ES
6	Sandado	..	S/CO
7	Suso	..	S/CO
8	Kanhapur	..	ES

**BARIKPUR BAZAR S. O. (C) CO/PCO**  
**PIN-756112**

1	Bhagibindha	..	S(MPO)
2	Ichhada	..	S
3	Nuagan	..	S
4	Narayanpur	..	S(MPO)
5	Piripur	..	ES
6	Todanga	..	ES

**BASUDEBPUR LSG SO\* CO/PCO**  
**PIN-756125**

1	Arandu	...	S(MPO)
2	Bhairabpur	..	S
3	Bedelpurpal	..	ES
4	Binayakpur	..	S
5	Biras	..	S(MPO)
6	Kismatkrishnapur	..	S/PCO(MPO)
7	Mandari	..	S
8	Matipaka	...	S(MPO)
9	Sankrishnapur	..	S/PCO
10	Radhaballavpur	..	S



**BHADRAK PURUNABAZAR NDTSO**  
**PCO/CO (C)**  
**PIN-756100**

**BHADRAK BANKA BAZAR NDTSO (C)**  
**PIN-756100**

**BHADRAK NAYA BAZAR NDTSO/PCO/ CO(C)**  
**PIN-756100**

**BHADRAK COURT NDTSO PCO CO (B)**  
**PIN-756100**

**BHADRAK RS NDTSO (C) TPO-O-560**  
**PIN-756100**



**BHADRAK COLLEGE NDTSO (C) TPO-O-133  
PIN-756100**

**BASUDEBPUR COLLEGE NDTSO (C)  
PIN-756125**

**BHANDARIPOKHARI S. O. (B) PCO  
PIN-756120**

1	Rahania	..	S
2	Sarasada	..	S
3	Malda	..	ES

**BIDYADHARPUR EDSO(C) CO/PCO  
PIN-756161 TPO-O-644.**

**BRAHMANIGAN S. O. (C)  
PIN-756165**

1	Bachhipur	..	ES
2	Kiapada	..	S

**BETADA A. S. O. (C)  
PIN-756168**

1	Barandua	..	S
2	Khirkona	..	S
3	Kaneibindha	..	S
4	Narasinghpur	..	S

**BASANTI S. O. (C)  
PIN-756144**

1	Badram pass	..	S (MPO)
2	Chhenapadi	..	S
3	Inchol	..	S
4	Mareigan	..	S
5	Podasingidi	..	S
6	Silandi	..	S
7	Apanda	..	S
8	Orali	..	S

**BALIKHANDA S.O. (C)****PIN-756166**

1	Kanchpada	..	ES
2	Kalaspur	..	S
3	Parbatipur	..	ES
4	Ramakrishnapur	..	ES
5	Srimantapur	..	S

**CHUDAMANI EDSO/PCO TPO-O-650****PIN-756136****CHANDBALI BAZAR NDTSO(C)****PIN-756133****CHARAMPA LSG S.O. CO/PCO****PIN-756101**

1	Alanti	..	ES
2	Andheipalli	..	S
3	Bandhagan	..	S(MPO)
4	Banitia	..	S
5	Balalpokhari	..	ES(MPO)
6	Chandigan	..	ES
7	Patuli	..	S
8	Kadabaruan	..	S
9	Sargadia	..	S
10	Tarago	..	ES

**CHANDBALI LSG S. O. CO/PCO\*****PIN-756133**

1	Bauljoda	..	S
2	Baligan	..	ES
3	Bentalpur	..	S
4	Bijayanagar	..	S
5	Goladia	..	S
6	Gopalpur	..	S
7	Orasahi	..	S(MPO)
8	Panchpada	..	ES(MPO)
9	Sukleswar	..	S
10	Tentulidihi	..	S
11	Ugratara	..	S

**DHAMNAGAR LSG SO CO/PCO**  
**PIN-756117**

1	Angeipal	..	S
2	Bandhatia	..	S
3	Chudakuti palasa	..	S
4	Dhamnagar Block Colony	..	S
5	Dobal	..	S(MPO)
6	Jahangir	..	S
7	Khadipada	..	S
8	Kurigan	..	S
9	Palikiri	..	S
10	Rameswarpur	..	S(MPO)
11	Sohara	..	S(MPO)

**DHUSURI S. O. (B) CO/PCO**  
**PIN-756119**

1	Bemkura	..	S
2	Betaligan	..	S(MPO)
3	Brahmanpal	..	S
4	Khadimahara	..	ES
5	Pandarbatia	..	S
6	Pangata	..	ES
7	Sahusahi	..	S
8	Sanalpur	..	S
9	Shyamsundarpur	..	S
10	Sundarpur	..	S
11	Sahaspur	..	S
12	Surjyapur	..	ES

**DOLASAH SO (A) CO/PCO PIN-756127**

1	Ganjeibadi	..	S
2	Jitanaga	..	S (MPO)
3	Moharrampur	..	S (MPO)
4	Nandapur	..	ES
5	Serpur	..	S

**DAKHINABADA NDTSO (C)**  
**PIN-756117**

**ERTAL S. O. (B) CO**  
**PIN-756124**

1	Albhaga	..	ES
2	Gopaljew sugo	..	S
3	Guagadia	..	S (MPO)
4	Lunga	..	S (MPO)
5	Padmapur	..	S

**GHOSRA BAZAR NDTSO (C) TPO-O-1007**  
**PIN-756100**

**GHANTESWAR SO/CO/PCO (B)**  
**PIN-756129**

1	Amrutpur	..	S
2	Andeipat	..	ES
3	Biriadia	..	S
4	Haladia	..	S (MPO)
5	Hatapur	..	S
6	Kandargadia	..	S
7	Narendrapur	..	S
8	Panchutikiri	..	S (MPO)
9	Raipur	..	S/CO
10	Subudhia	..	S
11	Totapada	..	ES

**GUAMAL SO/PCO (C)**  
**PIN 756163**

1	Bilana	..	ES/PCO
2	Bhuinwash	...	S(MPO)
3	Bodak	..	S
4	Galagandapur	...	S
5	Jayapur	..	S
6	Kubera	..	ES
7	Talapada	...	S(MPO)

**GUJIDARADA SO/CO/PCO (B)**  
**PIN-756128**

- |   |                |    |    |
|---|----------------|----|----|
| 1 | Aharpada       | .. | S  |
| 2 | Keshpur        | .. | S  |
| 3 | Rajmukundapur  | .. | S  |
| 4 | Talagopabindha | .. | ES |

**HATADIHI EDSO/PCO**  
**TPO-O-679**  
**PIN-756141**

**ICHHAPUR EDSO/PCO**  
**TPO-O-688**  
**PIN-756110**

**ERAM S O/PCO(C)**  
**PIN-756162**

- |   |        |    |       |
|---|--------|----|-------|
| 1 | Nuagan | .. | ES    |
| 2 | Suan   | .. | S/PCO |

**KENDUAPADA EDSO-PCO**  
**TPO-O-567**  
**PIN-756142**

**KOTHAR S. O. (C) PCO**  
**PIN-756118**

- |   |           |    |        |
|---|-----------|----|--------|
| 1 | Ambiligan | .. | ES     |
| 2 | Kalyani   | .. | S      |
| 3 | Nuahat    | .. | S(MPO) |

**KUANS NDTSO**  
**TPO-O-586**  
**PIN-756100**

**MANJURI ROAD S.O. (B) CO/PCO**  
**PIN-756121**

- |   |          |    |         |
|---|----------|----|---------|
| 1 | Babalpur | .. | S       |
| 2 | Danar    | .. | S       |
| 3 | Bandalo  | .. | S       |
| 4 | Deopada  | .. | ES(MPO) |
| 5 | Dimiria  | .. | ES      |
| 6 | Gedma    |    | S       |

7	Kulana	..	S
8	Sodang	..	ES
9	Salinia	..	ES
10	Kesinga	..	ES

**MOTTO SO(A) CO/PCO****PIN-756132**

1	Chardia	..	S
2	Dosinga	..	S
3	Goudunipokhari	..	S
4	Harekrishnapur	..	S
5	Jaleshwarpur	..	ES(MPO)
6	Koithkhola	..	S(MPO)
7	Karanpokhari	..	ES
8	Kishoreprasad	..	ES
9	Kuda	..	S(MPO)
10	Madhapur	..	ES
11	Madhupur	..	S
12	Mausudha bazar	..	S
13	Nalgohira	..	S(MPO)
14	Nalgunda	..	S
15	Narsinghpurhat	..	S(MPO)
16	Nuagan Ichhapur	..	S
17	Paramanandapur	..	ES
18	Rampur	..	S
19	Sailendrapalli	..	S(MPO)
20	Saraswati	..	S/CO

**MADHABANAGAR SO(C)****PIN-756181**

1	Geltua	..	S
2	Jalanga	..	S

## NAIKANIDIHI SO(C) PCO

PIN-756164

1	Baincha	..	S
2	Balimunda	..	S(MPO)
3	Bansada kuamara	..	S
4	Bedeipur	..	S/CO
5	Ghanteswar Baliapal	..	S/PCO
6	Govindpur	..	ES
7	Karanpalli	..	S
8	Karanjamal	..	S
9	Senahavellsahi	..	S

## NADIGAN EDSO-PCO

TPO-O-936

PIN-756143

## NANGAMOHALLA NDTSO (C)

PIN-756100

## PIRHAT BAZAR SO (A)-PCO

PIN-756131

1	Arjunbindha	...	S
2	Balimeda	...	S
3	Bamanbindha	..	ES
4	Chandrakatbindha	...	ES
5	Ghatapur	...	ES
6	Hengupati	..	S
7	Jamjhadi	...	ES
8	Kherang	..	S(MPO)
9	Mudusuli	..	S
10	Pirhat	...	S
11	Rajgharpokharl	..	S
12	Sahapur	..	S
13	Samantraipur	..	S(MPO)
14	Tiadisahi	..	S
15	Govindpur Hanspat	..	ES

## PALIABINDHA SO(C) CO/PCO

PIN-756167

1	Baruni	...	ES
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**PROBODHPUR NDTSO (C)**  
**PIN-756125**

**RANDIAHAT SO (B)**  
**PIN-756135**

1	Badabarchikayan	..	ES
2	Bodakpatna	..	S(MPO)
3	Kadabarang	..	S
4	Odanga	..	S(MPO)
5	Olanga	..	ES(MPO)
6	Saramara	..	S

**RANITAL SO (C)**  
**PIN-756111**

1	Balanta	..	S
2	Champuripada	..	S
3	Gourgadia	..	S
4	Kalasuni	..	S
5	Maitapur	..	S(MPO)
6	Rambhila	..	S(MPO)
7	Rahanja	..	ES

**SALANDI COLONY NDTSO (C)**  
**PIN-756100**

**SABRANGA SO (B) CO/PCO**  
**PIN-756123**

1	Andrai	..	S/CO
2	Atto	..	S
3	Erada	..	S(MPO)
4	oramati	..	S(MPO)
5	Sahada sabrang	..	S(MPO)
6	Samia	..	ES



**SIMILIA LSG SO/CO/PCO**  
**PIN-756126**

1	Anandapur	..	ES
2	Bari	..	S
3	Bariha	..	S (PCO)
4	Bati	..	ES
5	Jamjhadi	..	S
6	Markona	..	ES
7	Mohammadpur	..	ES
8	Sahigan	..	S (MPO)

**SIMILIA BAZAR NDTSO (C)**  
**PIN-756126**

**TIHIRI LSG SO CO/PCO\***  
**PIN-756130**

1	Balichaturi	...	S
2	Baro	..	S
3	Chhabispara sasan	..	S
4	Dhulipada	...	S
5	Golapokhari	..	S
6	Kanpada	..	S
7	Kolha	...	S/CO
8	Matiasahi	..	S
9	Mangalpur	...	ES
10	Patna mishrapur	..	ES
11	Saya	..	S (MPO)
12	Sindol	..	S

## CHAPTER VIII

### MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

In the chapters on Agriculture and Irrigation, Industries and Banking, Trade and Commerce the major sectors of economy were dealt with at length. But these sectors by themselves do not give the entire economic picture of the population. The people of the district are also engaged in miscellaneous occupations like public administration, teaching, legal, medical and personal services. Those who are in administration or learned profession form the intellectual class and despite their small percentage, exert maximum influence in the affairs of the district. In domestic and personal services the occupation of barber, washermen, tailors, drivers, etc., are also essential for the society and they constitute an important social group.

#### Public Administration

Both the educated and the uneducated people prefer jobs in public administration departments because they get service security and other benefits. The Statistical Abstract of 1991 shows the employment situation in various branches of public administration. The table below gives the number of employees of the Central Government, State Government, Quasi government undertakings and local bodies of the district in 1989\*.

Employees in Public Sector				Local Bodies	Total
Central Government	State Government	Quasi Government			
		Central	State		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
4648	19506	1291	1291	653	27389

\*Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Orissa, Bhubaneswar.

### **Amenities provided to Government Servants**

Besides providing dearness allowance, the State Government have made provision for granting festival advance and also loans for construction of residential buildings. Residential accommodation is provided to Government employees on reasonable rent as far as possible or house rent allowance in lieu thereof. The Government also considers loan applications from its employees for purchase of vehicles. Besides travelling allowance, government servants and members of their families get facilities to reimburse the expenses incurred in connection with treatment of diseases. Besides, the government employees are provided with Group Insurance facility since 1976 in case of untimely death during the service period. The scheme is intended to alleviate the financial hardship caused to the bereaved family of government servants, whether temporary or permanent, in regular establishments. The employees of Central Government as well as the corporations like the Life Insurance Corporation of India, the Food Corporation of India, etc., have their own schemes of allowance, leave, medical relief, provident fund, gratuity, etc.

### **Employees' Organisation**

Due to implementation of five-year plans there has been considerable expansion in the public services at Central and State Government level, and in the local bodies. These employees have formed their respective unions with a view to redressing their grievances. The State Government employees have formed a number of unions and associations of which the Orissa State Non-gazetted Employees' Co-ordination Committee is important. Employees of local bodies have similar organisations in the district.

### **Learned Professions**

Teachers, lawyers, doctors, etc., are included under this profession. Teachers contribute immensely in vitalizing the cultural and social life of the district. They work in various academic institutions.

In 1988-89, a total number of 7319 teachers were engaged in primary schools, 4038 in Middle schools, 4345 in Secondary schools and 1190 in colleges for general education.

Regarding the economic condition of the teachers it was found that the monthly salary income of the Primary teachers varied from Rs. 940 to Rs. 1463. This amount was not sufficient to maintain a good standard of living. So, most of them had to depend upon other sources of income. The monthly salary income of High English school

teachers ranged from Rs. 1170 to Rs. 2265. In addition, some of them get remuneration as examiners, private tutors, etc. Teachers in higher educational institutions are, however, financially better placed.

### Lawyers

The number of legal practioners in the district was 535 in 1989. They generally reside in urban areas where law courts are located. They offer their services in civil, revenue and criminal cases to their clients. The amount of fees charged by the lawers varies according to the nature of the case and popularity and competency of the lawyer who handles it.

There are three Bar Associations in the district at Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Nilagiri. The Baleshwar Bar Association is the oldest in the district as it started almost a century ago. Bhadrak Munsif court was started in 1901 while the Nilagiri court was of recent origin. The object of formation of Bar Associations is to preserve and promote the welfare of the member and also to provide amenities like library facilities to the members. The President, Secretary and other office bearers are elected annually from among the members.

### Doctors

During 1985-86, altogether 1,554 persons were engaged in medical and other professions relating to human health. The break up of these services is given below.

Allopathic Doctors	180
Ayurvedic Doctors	187
Homeopathic Doctors	318
Radiographers	Nil
Laboratory Technicians	38
Pharmacists	95
Nurses	61
Lady Health Visitors	70
Auxiliary Nurse Midwives	361
Sanitary Inspectors	69
Paramedical Workers	94
Vaccinators	81
<b>Total</b>	<b>1554</b>

Besides the above government service holders, there are many technical and non-technical persons who are doing private practice.

There are 29 Ayurvedic dispensaries and 38 homoeopathic dispensaries functioning in the district during 1987. Due to its low-cost medicines, homoeopathic system is popular among the people. There are also many private homoeopathic practitioners in the district, some of them earning a good income.

### **Domestic and Personal Services**

This profession includes the services of domestic servants, barbers, washermen, tailors, etc. In course of time these professions have undergone noticeable changes with the changing economic pattern in the society.

#### **Domestic servants**

Cooks, bearers (domestic and institutional) and maid servants are included in this class. They numbered 693 in 1961. As many as 144 persons out of them were living in urban areas. These number must have been considerably increased by now due to the growth of industrial townships near important urban areas like Baleshwar and Bhadrak. Their wage rates are not attractive compared to other occupations but they enjoy the benefit of free fooding and clothing in addition to their wages. Those who are not given food, clothings and shelter get higher rate of wages. Many middle class families engage servants on a part-time basis for attending to various routine domestic works.

#### **Hair-cutting**

This is the traditional occupation of the Bhandari caste. In rural areas, the barber moves from door to door with his small wooden box or cloth bag which contains the necessary instruments for hair-cutting and shaving. The practice of paying him in kind is still prevalent in some villages according to the old *jajamani* system. However, their number is dwindling rapidly owing to spread of self-shaving with safty razors even in rural areas. As a result barbers, as a traditional occupational groups, have shifted to other occupations. In 1986, there were 126 saloons functioning in the urban areas of the district. Each saloon generally employed one or two persons. In small towns, the income of the barber varies from Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 per day while in big towns like Baleshwar and Bhadrak the average daily income varies between Rs. 50 to Rs. 100.

**Laundry**

This occupation is mostly confined to the Dhobi caste. A good number of laundries are found in Baleshwar and Bhadrak but such establishments are few in other towns. Majority of these are family concerns where the owners with the help of members of their family carry on the business. Big establishments employ a few workers on monthly payment basis. The majority of the laundries are housed in rented wooden cabins. In 1985-86, a total number of 91 laundries were operating in the urban areas of the district.

Generally the poor people do not give their clothes to the laundries. Some middle class people wash their clothes at home and at times get them ironed in the laundries. The launderers receive payment according to the number of pieces washed. At present the charges vary from 50 to 60 paise for a cotton dress, Re. 1.00 to Rs. 1.50 for a synthetic dress, and they charge more for costly garments. The earning of the laundries which deal in dry-cleaning of woolen garments are higher. The income of the establishments vary according to the volume of business done.

**Tailoring**

This category of service is done by men and women irrespective of caste and creed. Tailoring is attracting a considerable number of persons in urban areas and consequently more tailoring shops are being located in the town areas of the district. In 1985-86, a total number of 405 tailoring shops were catering to the needs of the urban population in the district. The income of the tailoring shops vary according to the strength of the establishments. The business goes on well during the marriage season and some religious festivals.

**Cycle repairing**

At present a large number of people use bicycles in their day-to-day life. To keep the cycle in running condition, repairing shops have been opened throughout the district. In urban areas the repairing shops are found in large numbers. In order to maintain a shop the owner-mechanic usually appoints one or two young boys to help him in his workshop. Their income varies from Rs. 200/- to Rs. 300/- per month. The owner's income consists of the repair charges and profit on spare parts sold. Some big cycle-repairing units in Baleshwar and Bhadrak towns earn more than Rs. 1000/- per month. Some of the bicycle-repairing shops also give petromax lights on hiring. They usually charge Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 per petromax for a night's use. In 1985-86, 367 cycle-repairing units were functioning in the urban areas of the district.

### **Betel Shop**

There are a good number of betel shops in the district run on proprietorship basis. Most of these shops also sell additional items like perfumes, cigarettes, *bidis*, confectionery, candles, aerated water and other articles. They are mostly housed in rented premises and small wooden cabins. There are large number of betel shops in urban areas like Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Soro, Nilagiri, Chandbali, Basudebpur and Jaleshwar. In 1985-86, there were 1161 shops in the urban areas of the district.

### **Tea stall**

Drinking tea has become very common among the people. Tea stalls are coming up in every corners of the district. No enumeration of these stalls has yet been undertaken. Due to scarcity of fresh milk tea stalls are also using milk powder for preparing tea. The high price of milk and sugar has raised the price of tea and coffee. In 1986 these stalls charged Re. 0.50 for a cup of tea and Re. 0.75 to Re. 1.00 for a cup of coffee according to their quality. Some tea stalls also sell light refreshments. The monthly income of these establishments depend upon the size of the stall and the locality in which they are situated. The stalls located in urban areas usually earn more. In order to maintain a stall the owner generally engages one or two boys to help in serving the customers and washing the utensils. Their monthly pay varies from Rs. 30/- to Rs. 75/-. Most of these employees are also provided with food and lodging by the employers. In 1985-86, a total number of 482 tea stalls were functioning in the urban areas of the district.

### **Brass and Bell-metal workers**

There are a number of *Thatari* families in Remuna and Kumada who are engaged in brass and bell-metal industry. They make house-hold utensils of brass and bell-metal and earn a fair income by exporting to other places and by local sale.

### **Cobblers**

The cobblers (Mochis) are found mostly in urban areas like Baleshwar and Bhadrak. They usually repair old and worn-out footwears. They also undertake shoe polishing and repair of the leather articles. The cobblers at Bhadrak and Baleshwar also make cheap foot-wears. The unskilled cobblers usually earn from Rs. 15/- to Rs. 20/- per day, whereas the daily income of skilled ones is more.

### **Fishing**

Fishing is an important occupation of a section of the people of the district. A small fishing port has been constructed at Dhamara. Deep sea fishing is carried on at Churamani in Basudebpur and Balaramgarhi near Chandipur. The traditional fishermen belong to Gokha, Keuta and Dewar castes. Besides, persons belonging to other castes are also found to be engaged in fishing business. Now-a-days fishing has become lucrative due to introduction of modern equipments specially on the sea. The catches from the district are regularly exported to neighbouring districts and also to Calcutta market in West Bengal.

### **Stone Workers**

Laterite stones are found in large quantities in and around Nilagiri police-station area. Due to low-cost and easy availability the local people prefer stone to brick for building houses. The stone cutters in the quarry get twenty to twenty-five paise for cutting one block of stone. On an average the stone cutter presently earns Rs. 15/- to Rs. 20/- per day. For dressing and setting one hundred stone blocks of different sizes, the charges vary from Rs. 50/- to Rs. 60/-.

Quality stones for the construction of roads and buildings are also available in the district. Hundreds of people are engaged in breaking stones into small pieces. They get daily wages or paid on contract basis. The daily income of an employee of this category in 1985-86 usually varies from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15.

There are some families of stone-carvers in Baulagadia and other adjacent villages in Nilagiri police-station. All the adult members of a stone-carver's family are usually engaged in this business. They make *chaki*, *sila*, *pathuri* and other household appliances for sale in local markets and at different places where big fairs are held.

### **Radio-repairing**

In 1985-86, there were 186 radio-repairing shops functioning in the district. These shops mostly provide employment to one or two people with a good income.

### **Cycle-rickshaw driving**

Driving cycle-rickshaw provides livelihood to a number of people belonging to the weaker section of the society. In towns rickshaw provides easy and cheap transport to the people. In 1985-86, there were 642 rickshaw-pullers earning their livelihood in the towns of Bhadrak, Jaleswar, Basudebpur and Soro.



### **Bullock cart driving**

Bullock cart is a popular mode of transportation in the rural areas. However, even in towns some people are engaged in bullock cart driving to eke out a living. In 1985-86, in the towns like Jaleshwar, Basudebpur, Bhadrak and Soro, there were 105, 11, 20 and 8 bullock cart drivers respectively.

### **Potters**

Pottery is an age-old industry in the district. This is the traditional occupation of the people belonging to the Kumbhar caste. At present the wide use of plastic, aluminium and other metals have greatly affected this occupation. But use of earthen vessels in the urban and rural households as well as in the places of worship is continuing despite the modern impact. The potter works with his wheel and prepares earthenware vessels and takes them to the near by village or town for sale. Some of the potters also manufacture country tiles. The potters in the Chandbali region produce Chilam for smoking Ganja in large quantities which is popular both in and outside the district. Most of the people still use the earthenware for cooking food, storing water and food grains. Usually the potter carries on the work with the help of his family members in his own house. Availability of the main raw material, i.e., clay in the vicinity reduces the cost of transport and price of the articles too. It is difficult to estimate the daily income of a potter's family. On a rough estimate, it may be Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 per day.

### **Automobile repairing workers**

With increasing use of automobiles, especially in towns, repairing shops are coming up to do the maintenance service to the vehicles. A good number of people are earning their livelihood out of it. Generally two to three people work in small repairing shops while in bigger ones five to eight people are engaged. In 1985-86, there were 100 automobile repairing shops in the urban areas of the district.

### **Employment in shops and commercial establishments**

The Orissa Shops and Commercial Establishments Act of 1956 is in force in Baleshwar, Soro and Jaleshwar towns of the district. The labour officers visit the shops and other commercial establishments in these places to find out whether the workers employed therein are properly paid, given holidays and have fixed working hours. They also look to the safety, health and welfare of the workers. At the end of December, 1985, there were 752 shops and commercial establishments in three towns of the district, namely, Baleshwar, Soro and Jaleshwar. A total number of 2,180 workers were in employment in these establishments.

## CHAPTER IX

### ECONOMIC TRENDS

#### LIVELIHOOD PATTERN

Baleshwar is essentially an agricultural district. Majority of the people are dependant on agriculture. But the importance formerly attached to Baleshwar as an industrial centre was due to the fact that in the 17th century it contained industrial establishments of five European countries, namely, the Portugese, the Dutch, the Danes, the French and the English. The chief settlement of the English was Baleshwar town with subordinate factories at Bhadrak, Soro and Balaramgarhi surrounded by weavers colony. The fine cotton cloths and muslins produced by their looms formed the chief article of commerce. This flourishing trade was affected by incessant Maratha raids. In a report submitted by the Fauzdar of Baleshwar in 1761, we find rice, iron and stone plates referred to as the principal exports. Cotton cloth was not mentioned. Stirling, writing in 1822, has left it on record that the manufactures and trade were negligible. The manufacture of salt, however, was a very important industry giving employment to a large number of persons. We find that the Rickets Canal was made principally to afford a ready means of transport for the salt from the Arangs or salt lands in the south to the port of Churamani and further north up to Hijili. The finest salt of India, says Stirling, was manufactured in Orissa and particularly in this district. The district was also famous for preparing mats of three kinds called *hensa*, *chatai* and *patia*. In the Census of 1901, it was observed that nearly 79 per cent of the people were supported by agriculture of which 31 per cent were actual workers including 8,000 rent receivers, 2,45,000 rent payers and 4,000 field labourers.

Industries supported 9.6 per cent of the population and 59 per cent of this class were actual workers including 12,000 fishermen and fish dealers, 13,000 grain parchers and rice-pounders, 9,000 cotton weavers and spinners, 3,000 basket and mat-makers, besides numerous goldsmiths, iron-smiths and potters. The proportion of the population supported by commerce was small amounting to 0.3 per cent. But many of the persons though not actual shop-keepers dealt in the products of their workmanship and contributed considerably towards local trade. About 1.1 per cent of the population derived their livelihood from professional pursuits and of these 46 per cent were actual workers including 1,000 priests and 1,500 teachers. Among those engaged in other occupations were 4,000 herdsmen, 7,000 beggars and 24,000 general labourers.

In the ex-state of Nilagiri out of the total population (66,460 persons) more than half, i.e., 55.5 per cent lived by agriculture, 15.97 per cent by industrial pursuits, 10.4 per cent by profession and 9.9 per cent were engaged in trade.

In the Census of 1931, the total population of the district excluding the Nilagiri ex-state was 9,90,600 of which 3,67,673 were earners, 22,660 working dependants and 6,00,267 non-working dependants. Out of the total working population 2,88,886 persons had principal occupation in agriculture, fishing, etc., 21,917 persons in industries, 1,999 persons in transport, 21,115 persons in trade, 6,200 persons in public administration and liberal arts, etc., 24,555 persons in miscellaneous occupations.

According to the Census of 1951, the total population was 11,06,012 of which 942,743 persons earned their livelihood from agriculture and 1,63,269 persons from non-agricultural occupations. Of those who lived on agriculture, 7,42,239 persons belonged to the class of cultivators of land wholly or mainly owned by themselves, 89,042 persons were cultivators of land wholly or mainly unowned by themselves, 93,799 persons were agricultural labourers and 18,263 persons were non-cultivating owners of land. The non-agricultural occupations were divided into four categories, such as, production other than cultivation, commerce, transport and miscellaneous services which engaged 40,381, 22,080, 6,560 and 94,248 persons respectively.

During 1954-55, an economic sample survey\* was undertaken for the rural population of the district in which the family was taken as a unit. The survey showed that 87.1 per cent families were agricultural families, 70.00 per cent belonged to the class of cultivators of land wholly owned, 4.71 per cent were cultivators of land un-owned, 2.5 per cent were non-cultivating owners, 9.7 per cent were agricultural labourers, and 0.01 per cent did not come in any of these classes.

The non-agricultural classes were divided into four main occupation groups. Of the total non-agricultural families 3.5 per cent derived their major source of income by working as labourers, 0.5 per cent from trade, 2.9 per cent from production other than cultivation, and 3.5 per cent from service and other professions. In comparison with the occupational figures of the Census of 1951 this survey indicated, more or less, the same number of persons engaged in different occupations.

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\* Economic Survey of Orissa, vol. I, Dr. S. Misra,

In 1961, there were 4,53,500 workers in the district which constituted 32.08 per cent of the total population. Besides, there were 9,62,423 persons treated as non-workers. Of the total working population 2,94,267 persons were engaged as cultivators and 66,693 persons as agricultural labourers. Besides, 4,576 persons were engaged in mining and quarrying, 18,840 persons in household industry, 11,765 persons in other manufacturing works, 867 persons in construction work and 8,938 persons in trade and commerce. In transport, storage and communication 3,733 persons were engaged. There were 50,850 persons who followed other avocations not enumerated above.

The total number of workers in 1971 was 4,93,817 which constituted 26.98 per cent of the total population. The male and female workers respectively accounted for 50.67 and 2.60 per cent of the total male and female population. In 1961 the total number of workers made up 32.03 per cent of the total population and the male and female workers respectively constituted 57.20 and 6.17 per cent of the corresponding total population.

In the total working population, cultivators, agricultural labourers and other residual workers respectively accounted for 56.46, 28.06 and 15.48 per cent in 1971. The corresponding figures for 1961 were 64.89, 14.71 and 20.40 per cent. The reason for the decline in the participation rates especially among females may partly be attributed to the change in the definition of workers adopted for 1971 Census as compared to that of 1961. According to 1971 definition, a man or woman who was engaged primarily in household duties, or a student attending an institution even if such a person helped in the family economic activity but not as full-time worker, was treated a worker for the main activity. Application of this test resulted in non-inclusion, particularly in the rural areas of a large number of house-wives and students as workers in 1971 Census although they were classified as such in 1961.

According to the Census of 1981, the total population was 2,253,090 of which 616,957 persons were main workers, 39,690 persons were marginal workers and 1,596,443 persons were non-workers constituting 27.38 per cent, 1.76 per cent and 70.86 per cent of the total population respectively. Of the total main workers, 326,805 persons were engaged in cultivation, 161,829 persons as agricultural labourers, 11,363 persons in household industry such as manufacturing, pressing, servicing and repairing works, and 116,960 persons as other workers constituting 52.97, 26.23, 1.84 and 18.96 per cent respectively in 1981. The corresponding figures for 1971 were 56.46, 28.06, 1.60 and 13.88 per cent respectively. The reason for the decline in the parti-

icipation rates among the cultivators and the agricultural labourers could be attributed to the change in the definition of workers adopted for 1981 Census as compared to that of 1971. In the Census of 1981, work has been defined as participation in any economically productive activity which may be physical or mental in nature. The total population has been divided into three main groups such as main workers, marginal workers and non-workers. The main workers are those who have worked for a major part of the year preceding the enumeration. Marginal workers are those who have worked anytime at all in the year preceding the enumeration. And the non-workers are those who have not worked anytime at all in the year preceding the enumeration.

The above figures indicate the dependence of the people of the district on agriculture is predominant.

The percentage of dependence on agriculture in the Census of 1931, 1951, 1961, 1971, and 1981 were 74.01, 85.23, 79.60, 84.52 and 79.20 respectively. The change in percentage is due to the change in the definition of the working population in different censuses.

#### THE GENERAL LEVEL OF PRICES

Generally foodgrains become cheaper immediately after harvest and dearer before harvest. Prices are also lower or higher depending on the volume of production. The rise of prices of the principal produce contributed materially to the prosperity of the agriculturists.

#### Pre-independence Period

During the later half of the 19th century, the cost of essential commodities increased even more than the rate of wages and the price of rice, the staple food of the people, rose enormously. The highest increase took place after 1866, the Great Famine (Na'anka) of Orissa, and it is indeed a common saying that the high prices which commenced during the famine have never left the land.

L. S. S. O.' Malley in Balasore Gazetteer mentions the following price of rice in Seers\* perrupee (excluding the ex-state).

Period		Price of rice in seers per rupee
1837—51	---	49.8
1852—66	---	42.7
1867—81	---	24.8
1882—96	---	19.8
1897—1905	---	17.7

\* 1 Seer = 0.933,10 Kilogram

During the period 1900-05, price of rice was not affected much by the opening of the railway in 1899 in the district. The district had already been opened out by the canal system to a brisk export trade in rice by sea. The effect of the railway on the general trade of the district and its potential value as a means of making prices independent of local demands were, however, unquestionable. There was a great increase in the price of other agricultural produce, of pulses, Ghee and tobacco. But, on the other hand, cotton-yarn and oil were cheaper while there had been little change in the cost of sugar and of betel-nut. The average price of salt fell due to the reduction of the duty and improved facilities of communications.

During the decade 1893-1902 in the ex-state of Nilagiri, the average prices of rice, gram and salt remained practically stationary and was available at 17.500 kg. 10.850 kg., and 9.680 per rupee respectively.

It is noticed from the report on the Revision Settlement of Orissa (1922—32) by W. W. Dalziel, that the movements in the price of rice showed a rythmical rise and fall between 1900 to 1930 with an upward movement on the whole. He has mentioned that "Expressed in terms of seer to the rupee the average price rose to 15 in 1901, steadily dropped in the next 3 years to 20 in 1904, rose sharply to 10 between 1904 and 1907, dropped again to 5 in 1910 and 1911, rose between 1911 and 1915 to 9, dropped to 13 in 1917 and 1918. It again rose very highly to 7 in 1919 and 6 in 1920. This was the highest point reached. There was another 3 years decline to 12 in 1923, followed by recovery to 8 in 1924 and 1925. This level was maintained in 1926 and 1927 but it dropped again to 10 in 1928 and 1929 and to 12 in 1930. Then came the serious slump when the price dropped right down to  $16\frac{1}{2}$  in 1931, reaching 18 in November of that year.

The comparatively high peak reached in 1907 and 1908 can be attributed to floods in Orissa and famine in north India. The normal rise in 1919 and 1920 was probably due to improvement of world markets after the 1st World War, while the floods of 1920 also contributed. The price seems then to have reached to more normal level until a series of flood years in 1925 to 1927 caused another rise. The recent remarkable drop is of course a world-wide phenomenon to which many factors have contributed,

The price level again shot up in 1935-36 and the average harvest price of rice, rape and mustard, and sugarcane was 14.370 kg., 5.970 kg., and 8.290 kg. per rupee respectively. This trend was maintained up to 1939-40 with a little variation. In 1941-42, there was a marked rise in the price of rice due to poor crop and rice was available at 9 kg., per rupee. In 1942, there was a phenomenal rise in the prices of agricultural produce resulting from conditions of the Second World War and the destructive cyclone accompanied by heavy rain on the 16th October which swept over north Balেশwar. In 1942-43 and 1943-44, the rice was available at 5.410 kg., and 4.100 kg., per rupee respectively. The price of sugarcane and rape and mustard also rose higher and was available at 1.870 kg., and 1.770 kg., per rupee respectively. This price level was maintained more or less the same up to 1946-47.

### Post-Independence Period

In 1947, the price of food-grains rose and the harvest price of rice, sugarcane and rape and mustard was 2.980 kg., 2.490 kg., and 1.490 kg., per rupee respectively. It was thought at first that this sharp rise might be only a temporary phase, but the prices started stabilising at the high level without any prospect of recession. However, the rise of prices during the decade 1951-60 was not as drastic as in the decade 1941-50. But the common man was hit hard because of the increase in price index in this decade, though comparatively small, came on the top of the price spiral of the decade preceding, the cumulative affect of which was enough to break the economic backbone of the middle and the lower middle class people. With the launching of the third Five Year Plan (April, 1961 to March, 1966), the price level rose further and in 1961, the retail price of rice, wheat, green-gram, gram, black-gram, arhar and salt were 2.3 kg., 2.10 kg., 1.9 kg., 1.15 kg., 2.5 kg., 1.6 kg., and 8.5 kg., per rupee respectively. In the next year, the price of rice, wheat, ragi, green-gram, gram, black-gram, arhar and salt rose higher still and were available at 1.8 kg., 2.5 kg., 1.2 kg., 1.5 kg., 1.8 kg., 1.6 kg., 1.3 kg., and 7.1 kg., per rupee respectively. In 1963, the price of wheat, green-gram, and salt remained constant while the price of rice, ragi, gram, black-gram and arhar fluctuated slightly. In between 1964-70, the prices of all commodities grew higher still and in 1970 the retail price of rice, wheat, black-gram, green-gram, mustard oil, potato and onion per rupee was 1 kg., 1.125 kg., 0.890 gram, 0.870 gram, 0.250 gram, 2 kg., and 2 kg., respectively. Ordinary cloth was available at Rs. 1.46 per metre. The prices of all commodities rapidly grew higher in 1974 and in the month of February, 1974, rice, wheat,

gram and arhar were sold at 0.500 gram, 0.720 gram, 0.360 gram, and 0.340 gram per rupee respectively. Kerosene oil was available at Rs. 1.11 per litre. Ordinary cloth was available at Rs. 3.56 per metre. At present, people have been hardhit due to rise in prices and it is becoming difficult for lower and middle class people to make both ends meet. In urban areas people with fixed income are facing a lot of hardships due to constant price rise. During the last decade (1977—1986), prices continued to rise more or less proportionately to the rise in all India Consumer Price Index (C. P. I. general) which is as follows.

**All India Consumer Price Index (General)**

Base Year (1960)	..	100
1977	..	321
1978	..	329
1979	..	350
1980	..	390
1981	...	441
1982	...	475
1983	...	532
1984	..	576
1985	...	608
1986	..	661



The following table shows the price of some important commodities in Baleshwar centre during the period 1977 to 1986.

Name of the Commodities		Year										
		June 1977	June 1978	June 1979	June 1980	June 1981	June 1982	June 1983	June 1984	June 1985	June 1986	
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Rice	..	1.75	1.65	1.85	2.20	2.25	3.00	3.80	2.80	3.00	3.10	
Wheat	..	1.44	1.30	1.55	1.60	1.90	2.20	2.30	2.10	2.20	2.30	
Greengram	..	2.40	3.00	3.50	3.00	4.00	4.00	4.20	5.80	7.50	6.00	
Blackgram	..	2.60	2.80	2.80	2.60	2.60	3.25	3.80	4.30	5.50	4.40	
Maida	..	1.85	2.00	2.20	2.10	2.30	2.80	3.60	3.50	2.80	3.00	
Mustard oil	..	11.50	10.00	10.50	14.00	15.00	13.50	16.50	19.00	15.00	18.00	
Coconut oil	..	13.00	15.00	15.00	20.00	22.00	20.00	26.00	45.00	40.00	28.00	
Patato	..	1.40	1.60	1.30	1.90	1.50	1.65	1.70	1.80	1.40	2.80	
Onion	...	1.40	1.10	1.60	1.40	1.40	1.80	1.80	2.00	2.00	1.80	

Source— Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Orissa, Bhubaneswar

**GENERAL LEVEL OF WAGES****Pre-Independence Period**

The wages obtained for labour increased greatly during the period 1850 to 1902 specially in the towns. In 1950, the wages of ordinary day labourers were Re. 0.06 per day. The wages of the carpenters amounted to Re. 0.12 per day and blacksmiths Re. 0.15 to Re. 0.19 per day. Outside the villages, adult male day labourers earned a daily wage of Re. 0.22, female Re. 0.12 and boys Re. 0.3. Carpenters, masons and blacksmiths got Re. 0.37 to Re. 0.50 according to their skill.

In villages, a skilled labourer got from Re. 0.25 to Re. 0.37 and an adult unskilled labourer Re. 0.12 a day, but the amount of wages paid depended on the demand for labour, the nature and amount of the work performed and the size and position of the village, that is to say whether it was a remote and out of the way-track or a neighbourhood of the town. For making and repairing agricultural implements carpenters and blacksmiths were mostly paid in kind, the annual payment averaging about 8.400 kilograms of rice from every client. The day labourers when paid in kind got varying quantities of paddy equivalent to 1.866 kg. to 2.332 kg. of rice.

Measured by the quantity of grain given, there does not appear to have been any increase in the wages paid to agricultural labourers during the last 30 years, but owing to the enhanced price of food-grains the money value of wages in kind increased by 90 per cent. On the other hand, though the wages paid in cash increased considerably, they did not rise in the same proportion as the prices of staple food crops. So, the village labourers preferred to get their wages in kind and it was difficult to obtain a day labourer in the village who would work for cash wages in the sowing and reaping seasons.

In the 18th and 19th centuries many people of Baleshwar who sought employment in Calcutta monopolised certain services like dock workers and palanquin bearers. These services fetched them handsome income. So, naturally they could remit a substantial amount to their home.

\* As regards the supply of labour, the following extract from Foley's Report on Labour in Bengal (1906) is given below.

"There is considerable emigration to Calcutta, especially for handling goods and for all sorts of engineering works. I was informed that only the low castes went to the mills, because,

the castes are mixed together there; where as the high castes, who are chiefly Brahmans, Khandaits, Chasa and Goalas, wish to be separated especially in their dwellings, from the lower castes. Any amount of labour, I was informed, could be obtained between January and July when the people would want to return for their cultivation, since otherwise they would have to pay labourers to cultivate for them. Oriya labour is generally obtained through Sardars, who live in Calcutta or the neighbourhood and have agents in the district. Some of them make a very large income by the percentages of the wages they take and labour would be cheaper and more satisfactory if it was recruited direct through relatives, etc. Oriyas will leave home so long as they go with someone in whom they have confidence. The chief emigration is by sea, via., Chandbali, the crops in the Southern part of the district being liable to be changed by floods and draughts; along the sea coast also the land is poor on account of the deposits of salt. There is also emigration by rail, especially from Bhadrak and Balasore, and also by road through Midnapore. From Soro and the north of the district a considerable number of people go to the Sundarbans to cut the crops, leaving in November and returning in March. The chief centres where labour can be obtained appear to Balasore, Bhadrak, Basudevpur, Soro, Dhamnagar and Chandbali".

In the ex-state of Nilagiri, during the period 1893 to 1902 there was decisive rise in wages by nearly 50 per cent in the case of skilled labour and a somewhat smaller rise in the case of unskilled labour. The average daily wage during the period was superior mason Re. 0.39, common mason Re. 0.25, superior carpenter Re. 0.37, common carpenter Re. 0.25, a day labourer Re. 0.12, superior blacksmith Re. 0.28 and common blacksmith Re. 0.21.

S. L. Maddox in his Final Report on the Survey and Settlement of the province of Orissa (1890-1900 A. D.) has stated that money wages did not rise in the same proportion as the prices of the staple food-crops between 1814 and 1898. James noticed the same phenomena holding good up to 1910. There seems to have been a little rise in money wages between the Provisional and Revision settlements. There was slight rise between 1911, and 1916 and a very sharp rise between 1916 and 1924. The following table shows the figures of the three censuses of rural wages in 1911, 1916 and 1924. The figures for unskilled labourers in the agricultural areas were :

1911	..	Re. 0.12
1916	..	Re. 0.15
1924	..	Re. 0.27

The wage level remained constant from 1924 to 1932. Towards 1932, the system of paying wages in produce continued, but was not so prevalent as it used to be. The level of wages in kind did not vary much, the average being (4 seers 3 chataks) 3,900 kg., of paddy per day. This was applied in the case of agricultural labourers. The wages of the carpenters in cash varied between Re. 0.50 to Re. 0.75 per day, a considerable increase on the figure of Re. 0.15 given by William Hunter in 1875 and that of Re. 0.25 to Re. 0.37 given by J. F. W. James at the Revision Settlement of 1906-12. Blacksmiths generally got Re. 0.50 per day as compared to Re. 0.15 in 1875.

### Post-Independence Period

During 1954-55, an economic survey\* was conducted by the Government of Orissa. It was noticed that in the rural areas a large number of families derived their main source of livelihood by earning wages in farm and non-farm occupations. The survey showed that majority of the labourers, i.e., 90.01 per cent were employed on casual basis. Labourers engaged on annual terms constituted 9.99 per cent. A labourer, on the average, got work for 202 days a year. Towards 1957, with the rise in prices of food-grains, the wage level was also increased. A carpenter got Rs. 3.09, a cobbler Rs. 2.83, and a blacksmith Rs. 2.53 per day. Field labourers and herdsmen were paid Rs. 1.32 and Rs. 1.54 respectively. Other agricultural labourers, such as, those who watered the fields, carried loads and dug wells, etc., were paid at Rs. 1.65 per day.

In 1963, the wages rose further with the rise in prices. The skilled labourers, such as, carpenter, cobbler, and blacksmith got Rs. 3.50, Rs. 3.12 and Rs. 2.35 respectively per day. Field labourers and other agricultural labourers were paid Rs. 1.34 each per day. A herdsman got Rs. 1.60 per day. In between 1964 and 1968, the wage level increased further and the skilled labourers, such as, carpenter, cobbler and blacksmith got Rs. 3.00 to Rs. 5.00 per day. Male labourers got about Rs. 1.75, women Rs. 1.50 and children Re. 1.00 per day. Other agricultural labourers got about the same wages as that of field labourers. A herdsman got Rs. 1.25 per day. Between 1969 and 1973, the wages were enhanced further and skilled labourer, such as, carpenter, cobbler and blacksmith got Rs. 5.00 to Rs. 6.00 per day. Male labourers got about Rs. 2.50, women Rs. 2.00 and children

\*Economic Survey of Orissa, Vol. I, S. Misra.

Rs. 1.50 per day. Other agricultural labourer got more or less the same wages as that of the field labourers. A herdsman got Rs. 2.00 per day. In between 1974 and 1977 the wage level was increased further and the skilled labourers, such as, carpenter, cobbler and blacksmith got Rs. 6.00 to Rs. 9.00 per day. Male labourers got Rs. 3.00 to Rs. 4.00, women Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 4.00 and children Rs. 2.00 to Rs. 3.00 per day. Other agricultural labourers got at the rate of Rs. 3.00 to Rs. 4.50 per male, Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 3.50 per female and Rs. 1.50 to Rs. 2.50 per child per day.

With the rise in prices the wage level was also increased towards 1980. In 1980, agricultural labourer got Rs. 4.00 to Rs. 5.00 in rural areas and skilled labourers such as mason, goldsmith, etc., got Rs. 10.00 to Rs. 15.00 per day in Baleshwar subdivision. In Nilagiri subdivision, the agricultural labourers got Rs. 3.00 to Rs. 5.00 per day. In Bhadrak subdivision the agricultural labourers got about Rs. 5.00 per day.

In 1980-81 and 1981-82, the minimum wage in respect of all category of employment in agricultural sector was Rs. 5.00 per day. During the year 1982-83 the wages fixed for the agricultural labourers was Rs. 6.00 per day. In 1983-84 and 1984-85 the wage level was increased and an agricultural labourer got Rs. 7.50 per day. During the year 1985-86 the wages were fixed to Rs. 10.00 for 8 (eight) hours per day for all categories of employment in agricultural sector only.

In the beginning of the 20th century, there were three kinds of agricultural labourers, viz., the *baramasia*, *nag-mulia* and *thika-mulia*, of whom the first two were paid entirely in kind. The Baramasia was a labourer hired for the whole year. He received boarding and lodging in his employer's house and annual wage of Rs. 12.00 to Rs. 15.00, of which a portion was advanced to him free of interest, besides four garments and one winter cloth. The Nagmulia did not live or eat in his employer's house. He received about 5 kg. of paddy per day, besides two garments in a year. He was also allowed a plot of land to cultivate for his own consumption, free of rent. Engagements for one year service were made in the month of Phalguna (February-March) and he received a loan varying from Rs. 2.00 to Rs. 5.00 free of interest which was returned at the termination of his engagement. The Thikamulia was employed on the daily wage basis and got about Re. 0.12 a day.

The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 is a Central Act and provides for fixing / revising minimum wages in certain employments. This Act came into force with effect from 15th March 1948. Under

this Act, the State Government have been authorised to fix / revise the minimum rates of wages in different employments like agriculture, construction, timber trading, collection of Sal seeds, Kendu leaf, etc., which are included in the schedule of the Act. In respect of mines, however, the Central Government fixes / revises minimum rates of wages. For proper implementation of the Act the State Government framed the Orissa Minimum Wages Rules 1954. The minimum rates of wages can be fixed / revised in respect of those employments, which are included in the schedule of the Act and in order to cover a large number of workers employed in different types of employments, the State Government / Central Government are adding different types of employments to the scheduled employments in respect of which State Government can fix / revise minimum wages in the scheduled employments in their respective spheres from time to time primarily on consideration of rise in the consumer's price index. The minimum wages for different kinds of employment (agricultural & non-agricultural sectors) as fixed at different times are given in Appendix I' of this Chapter.

## STANDARD OF LIVING

### Pre-Independence period

The salt trade with Bengal brought some prosperity to the district. The district also exported annually about seven and a half lakh maunds of salt to the Salkia Golas in Calcutta. The Ponga salt of Baleshwar was specially popular in Bengal. The people of Baleshwar town primarily depended upon the salt department for their livelihood and maintenance. This is evident from the fact that the number of persons employed in the salt head office exceeded the total number of employees in the rest of the Government offices of the town. The salt office was always full of activity. A flourishing salt trade with Bengal had brought affluence at that time to the people of Baleshwar in particular and to the province of Orissa in general. This prosperity lasted till the salt from Great Britain came to Bengal in keen competition with the Orissa salt. The import of foreign salt was backed by political influence from Britain with subsequent encouragement from the Government. Imported salt completely displaced the salt from Orissa in the markets in Calcutta. Subsequently the Orissa salt was displaced from its own local market inside the province. The disappearance of the salt trade led to a serious economic distress throughout the district. The poor masses of this flood stricken district lost their prime source of maintenance. The economic condition of the middle class people also deteriorated on this account. Even the zamindars with their share in the salt

trade who had prospered during hey-day of this trade, were eliminated from the field of commerce following the destruction of the salt trade. In course of years this discontent manifested in the shape of an agitation against the salt policy of the Government culminating in the Salt Satyagraha of 1930.

In the Final Report on the Survey and Settlement of the province of Orissa (1890 to 1900 A. D.) by S. L. Maddox, the general standard of living has been described as follows. "The Oriya cultivator is content with very little and that he generally gets. A full meal of rice once a day, taken with a little salt, some pulses or vegetables, and perhaps fish, suffices him, and he eats cold in the morning what is left over his evening repast. Animal food is a luxury, but well-to-do men eat a little mutton and goats flesh, and all classes eat game when ever they help their luck to kill any. The poorest classes take to supplement their rice, boiled *kulthi* and *mandia* cakes, and find a substitute for vegetables in the many herbs and grasses that grow wild and it is very few indeed who cannot fill their bellies with food which if not appetising, is certainly satisfying. If the harvest fails or supplies run short, the cultivator finds in the *mahajan* a banker always ready to advance money on good security" In spite of their indebtedness the agricultural classes had more resources than any other people. However, the economic status of the cultivating classes as a whole cannot be said to be one of plenty, though certain sections enjoy the fair major of prosperity. The labourer in the villages were benefitted by the rise in the prices of food grains, as wages were paid mainly in kind.

Writing in the early part of the 20th century, L.S.S. O' Malley, described the material condition of the cultivators of the district as follows, "the houses of the cultivators consists of four mud-walls enclosing a court, and used as the gables of little room which lying the court inside. A Balasore husbandman has usually at least five of these little apartments, one for his cows, another for his cook-shed, a third for storing his paddy, and two rooms for sleeping and general use. There is generally a verandah outside the wall on both sides of the principal door for receiving strangers, and as a place where the men of the family talk and lounge. Sometimes, but rarely, the cow-shed is built outside the walls. The mud enclosure stands in the middle of a bright green patch of vegetables, and the whole is shut in with a good fence of prickly shrubs.

The summer dress of a Balasore peasant is a cotton waist-cloth (dhoti) falling over the things, and tucked up when at work, with a scarf (gamcha) thrown over his shoulder; occasionally also a turban

envelops his head. A well-to-do shopkeeper wears an ample cotton shawl (chadar) instead of the scarf, which he sometimes twists round his head and ears. He has also a pair of coarse shoes, with long turned-up toes and no heels, elaborately, though roughly, embroidered with coloured thread. In winter the peasant wraps his head and the upper part of his body in a thick double sheet (dohara), while the shopkeeper indulges in a broadcloth scarf (lungi) and a cotton shirt. A peasant's furniture consists of a few brass pots, platters and cups, one or two very rude bedsteads, a few mats, and sometimes some instruments of defence. The better class have generally one or two palm-leaf books on Hindu mythology in their houses, or a legend out of the Mahabharata or Ramayana.

Rice and milk form a peasant's food, even dried fish being a luxury among the poorest classes. The year's supply of it is stored up in reed baskets, and sparingly doled out. Vegetables also are luxuries not always within their reach. The peasants set aside their boiled rice till it turns slightly sour, and esteem this unpalatable mess a favourite article of diet. After boiling, the rice is allowed to stand for 24 hours in water, until fermentation has slightly set in, and to this sour menu a little salt is added. It need scarcely be added that the invariable diet of the Oriya peasant is unstimulating and unwholesome".

Towards the twenties, the traditional style of living for each of the main classes continued, and there was no appreciable change in the standard of living, though a tendency towards spurious luxury was noticeable in some of the poorer classes. The trade and commerce of the district was mainly in the hands of the outsiders. Social and religious ceremonies continued to be as numerous and indispensable as ever and there was no tendency for reducing the expenditure on them. Debts were incurred more for this purpose than for agricultural operations but no statistics are available to differentiate between loans incurred for one or the other. With the advent of railway the produce of the district was finding its way quickly into larger markets.

After the out-break of the Second World War in 1939, prices rose steeply. Rising prices definitely tell upon the standard of living. Those of the low-income group and the fixed income group, suffered the most. In 1932, the paddy crop was damaged by flood. This was followed by a destructive cyclone accompanied by heavy rain on the 16th of October 1942 which swept over north Balleshwar, particularly affecting Bhograi, Baliapal, Jaleshwar and Singla police-stations. Many trees were uprooted. Houses collapsed. In the next year, the autumn and winter paddy crops



were damaged due to the inadequate rainfall. In 1944, a strong easterly wind caused saline inundation of crops in the coastal areas of the district. There were high floods in the rivers of Baitarani, Subarnarekha and Salandi. In Sahabandar, particularly in the areas enclosed by the old and new channels of the river, the surface of the soil is in a state of continual change owing to the action of the water. The course of the river is erratic and its action deposits in some places sand and in others silt, so that the cultivation varies from year to year. All this created heavy shortage of production of food crops causing rise in price and shortage in supply. Cost of both food and non-food articles had gone up to a level at which it became hard for the majority of the people to make both ends meet.

### **Post-Independence period**

In a sample survey\* in 1954-55, investigation was conducted to collect information about the size of the income of rural families. As majority of the population live in rural areas, a broad picture of rural income indicated the average level of income of the district. In this survey the family was taken as a unit and the data revealed that the average annual income per farming family was Rs.675.88. Next to the farming families in numerical importance, are the house-holds who depend primarily, and many of them wholly, on wages by working on farms or in non-farm occupations. Their average annual income per family was Rs. 142.84 in 1954-55. The data revealed that the level of income of the barbers, washermen and priests was around Rs.200 a year. This clearly indicates that the families pursuing these occupations belong to the low income group.

A family budget enquiry was conducted in 1960. The design of the survey was one of the stratified systematic sampling. For the purpose of this survey the districts, viz., Cuttack, without Athagarh subdivision, Puri, Baleshwar, and the plain areas of Ganjam were grouped under one region. The data show that cereals claimed 27 per cent of the total consumption in the rural areas as against 24.5 per cent in the urban areas. Milk and milk products claimed a lower proportion in rural areas than in the urban. Other food-items constituted 17 per cent in the rural family budget, as against 40 per cent in the urban budget. In non-food items the urban people spent a greater proportion of their total consumption in cash terms whereas in rural areas they consume less in non-cash terms. This clearly shows that the urban people buy most of their cereal requirements while rural people depended on home-grown stock

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\*Economic Survey of Orissa, Vol. I.

or that obtained in exchange of goods and services. As regards milk and milk products, more or less, an even distribution was prevalent between cash and non-cash consumption in the rural areas, while in the urban areas cash consumption constituted the only factor. Milk which the villagers produce were generally taken to the towns for consumption. In respect of fuel, light, toilet and sundry goods non-cash consumption was very meagre. For miscellaneous goods, services, durable and semi-durable goods, cash consumption both in rural and urban areas was of overwhelming proportion.

The above consumption pattern holds good till now and it can be said that in respect of food items rural people depend more on home-grown stock than their counterparts in the urban areas while for non-food items dependence on market is greater for all. In other words, urban people depend on the market for almost everything they utilise while rural people purchase a few items only. The increase in prices of various articles of daily consumption and housing accommodation has hit hard the urban people. In towns, the number of houses has not increased in proportion to the growth of their population during the last decade. However, shops dealing with grocery, (with stationery, oil, fuel, *pan-bidi*, steel and wooden furniture, utensils, medical equipments, optical goods, books and journals, etc.) have sprang up like mushrooms. The number of automobile repairing shops and motor tyre repairing shops is on the increase in the urban areas. The urban area presents a picture of all the socially significant sections of the people from the unskilled labourer to the well-to-do and the rich. The impact of urban life and the modern means of communication have some effect on the food habits and luxuries of the rural people. Many fashionable articles like motor-cycles, cars, jeeps, trucks, scooters, radios, transistors, television sets, electric fans, petromax lanterns, stoves, cookers, textiles of wool and synthetic yarn, cycle-rickshaws, watches, mycrophones, cameras, tractors, water pumps, etc., have made their way into the rural areas. With the expansion and improvement in communication business men are able to despatch their goods to remote countryside. Consequently, shops selling variety of goods, both luxurious and essentials, have now appeared in almost all big villages. Tailoring shops, cycle-repairing shops and tea shops are coming up in every village. With more money in the hands of cultivators and labourers the use of wheat, sugar, egg, fish, meat, milk-products, vegetables, etc., by them is being noticed. Most of the villages have been electrified. Pucca houses with reinforced concrete cement roof have been constructed by the well-to-do people. Model houses are built by the Community Development Blocks. The standard of living of the people is improving

due to the adoption of improved agricultural techniques, execution of irrigation projects, use of improved seeds and manures, and above all general consciousness created through the agency of Community Development Blocks. The various development programmes of the government evoke an urge for improvement and progress among the masses and they are now being attracted to non-agricultural and non-rural occupations. With the availability of co-operative credit and bank loans the cultivators find an easy way to escape from the clutches of private money-lenders who charge a high rate of interest. The Savings Bank facility and the availability of small Savings Certificates in post-offices are attracting many people to keep their savings in pass books and Savings Certificates.

Paddy, maize, pulses, oil-seeds and vegetables are grown in the district in plenty. Fish from Chandbali, Chandipur and Dhamara is being exported to the Calcutta market. Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Jaleshwar are famous for handloom weaving; Bolang for salt manufacturing, Nilagiri and Mangalpur for stonewares; Baulagadia for stone-carving, Remuna for the handicrafts, such as, cane and bamboo works, mats and basket works and bell-metal works. Jaleshwar, Nampoo, Navada and Baliapal are famous for coir-mats, carpets and ropes as the traditional crafts. With the nationalisation of banks, people have been benefited by 'availability of cash loans for productive and self-employment purposes. A number of branch offices of the commercial banks including Baleshwar Gramya Banks are coming up in every nook and corner of the district. A detailed account of the number of banks has been given in Chapter VI (Banking, Trade and Commerce).

### **Integrated Rural Development Agency**

This special tribal project was launched as Integrated Tribal Development Project on 1st December, 1975 and subsequently the nomenclature was changed to Integrated Tribal Development Agency (I. T. D. A.) with effect from 16th March 1979 and treated as a registered body under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. This agency (I. T. D. A.) consists of the only Community Development Block of Nilagiri covering 147 revenue villages under 22 Grama Panchayats. There is a Project Level Committee/Governing Body headed by the Collector as the Chairman to oversee the proper implementation of various programmes in I. T. D. A. The other members of the committee consists of the local M. P. and M. L. A., the District Level Officers in charge of different development programmes, Chairman of Panchayat Samiti, Nilagiri, a representative each from the H & T. W. Department and Lead Bank Officer, Baleshwar. The Sub Collector, Nilagiri, functions as the

Project Administrator and Member Secretary of the committee. This committee ensures proper and timely utilisation of funds and maintains effective co-ordination between the sectoral authorities in the field.

The I. T. D. A. has been functioning for intensive and integrated development of backward tribal regions. Schemes/programmes formulated by this agency aim at ameliorating the economic backwardness of the S. T. and S. C. population in particular and the entire area in general. The beneficiaries are selected in a Gram Sabha through the Block Development Officer, Nilagiri, who acts as the grassroot level officer for the implementation of the I. T. D. A. programmes by sponsoring applications of the identified Scheduled Tribes to the financing institutions for sanction of loan and for implementation of different income generating schemes and infrastructure development such as putting up low-cost hostels, installing street lights in Adivasi Bastis, construction of model villages, bee-keeping units, etc. During 1985-86, this agency received a grant of Rs. 10,00,2000/- as allotment and have incurred expenditure of Rs. 4,07,145/- till the 29th September 1986.

### **Rural Development Programme**

To ensure economic development of persons below the poverty line, the Integrated Rural Development Programme (I. R. D. P.) which was first conceived and initiated in a few selected blocks in the country in the Fifth Five-Year Plan was extended to all the Development Blocks in the country from the Gandhi Jayanti day on the 2nd October, 1980, as a centrally sponsored scheme on 50:50 basis between the Centre and the State Governments. This agency replaced the previous agency called Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labourers Agency (M. F. A. L.) functioning from 1970-71. The latter agency had much smaller scale of assistance to be applied to smaller number of schemes and beneficiaries. Under the concept of I. R. D. P., schemes were increased in number and its terms were liberalised and expanded. The beneficiaries include small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and also rural artisans.

### **District Rural Development Agency**

To effectively implement the above poverty eradication programmes, the District Development Organisation had to be strengthened. At the district level a single agency being responsible for implementation of all such programmes called the District Rural Development Agency (D. R. D. A.) under the chairmanship of the Collector and with a class-I Orissa Administrative Officer or a senior scale I. A. S. officer as the Project Director was constituted. A number of subject matter specialists on veterinary, agriculture, co-operatives, statistics and industry were appointed as Additional

**Project Officers** to assist the agency in identification of thousands of families of the target group in each Block, preparation of plans for assisting these families arranging credit support from nationalised banks, monitoring the progress and implementation of the schemes and other follow-up actions to ensure that the beneficiaries derive lasting benefits whereby they come above the poverty line. The normal pattern of assistance to individual family is 25 per cent subsidy for small farmers and  $33\frac{1}{3}$  per cent for marginal farmers and landless labourers. But for tribal people a uniform subsidy of 50 per cent was fixed. The balance amount required for implementation of the various family-oriented development schemes was to be arranged through bank finance of the various nationalised banks on a differential rate of interest (D. R. I.) which is 4 per cent against the normal commercial rate of 18 per cent.

The target under the IRDA was to raise 600 beneficiaries per C. D. Block per year above the poverty line during the period of Sixth Five Year Plan. The annual allotment of Rs. 6 lakhs per Block fixed in 1981-82 was raised to Rs. 8 lakhs for Block since 1982-83. Out of this, 10 per cent could be spent on infrastructure development,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent for establishment and 82.50 per cent towards subsidy for individual families on specific poverty eradication programmes for the benefit of target group, i.e. the small farmer, marginal farmer or an agricultural labourer, or a village artisan. The small farmer was defined as a cultivator with land holding below 5 acres in unirrigated area and below 2.5 acres in irrigated area. The marginal farmer was defined as a cultivator holding land of 2.5 acres or below in unirrigated areas and 1.25 acres of land in irrigated areas. An agricultural labourer was defined as a cultivator without any land holding except homestead and deriving more than 50 per cent of this income through agricultural wages.

The following figures will indicate the number of beneficiaries assisted under different IRDP schemes implemented in the district for the 6th Plan period (1980-81 to 1984-85).

Schemes	No. of beneficiaries during 6th Plan period	No. of beneficiaries during 1985-86
(1)	(2)	(3)
<b>I. Agriculture</b>		
Land Development ..	474	92
Horticulture ...	328	1,130
Supply of bullocks and bullock carts	3322	380

Schemes	No. of beneficiaries during 6th Plan period	No. of beneficiaries during 1985-86
(1)	(2)	(3)
<b>II. Minor Irrigation</b>		
Dug well ..	1,715	60
Sunk Tubewell ..	215	2
Minor Irrigation Tanks ..	233	15
Pump set (diesel) —	1,173	157
Community pump set ..	1,209	3
Lift Irrigation Points ..	14,407	..
Community Project ..	39	34
<b>III. Animal Husbandry</b>		
Dairy ..	2,794	76
Goats and Sheep ..	8,413	359
Poultry and duckery ..	304	64
Piggery ..	454	123
<b>IV. Fishery</b>		
Prawn culture ..	21	30
Net and Boat ..	405	208
Inland ..	2,639	199
<b>V. Bee-keeping</b>		
	8	9
<b>VI. Industry, service and business . .</b>		
	19,488	11,420

The above figures include the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheduled Castes beneficiaries. It also covered the beneficiaries under ITDA and MADA programmes, which are specially meant for the benefit of the tribal people only.

### **Economic Rehabilitation of Rural Poor**

The basic objective of the IRDP is to improve the economic status of the poor families in the village through institutional credit with an element of subsidy from Government. Experience, however, shows that financial institutions do not advance loans to the poor families who have no assets, thus the poorest among

the poor derive no visible benefit from the programme. In order to remove this anomaly, the State Government have introduced a modified programme called "Economic Rehabilitation of Rural Poor" (ERRP) to cover on an average 10 poorest families in each village of the approximately 50,000 villages in the state. The main features of this programme are as follows :

(i) In each village in the state, the villagers themselves will meet and select on an average 10 poorest families per village. The definition of the poor family is one which has no income earning asset at all and whose annual income is less than Rs. 1,200.

(ii) After all such families are selected by the villagers one or other of the different schemes will be attempted to serve individual needs. Each of these schemes has the object of producing a steady income of about Rs.3,000 per year to a family. The pattern of assistance is 100 per cent subsidy on land-based and fishery schemes and 75 per cent subsidy on animal husbandry and other tertiary schemes. The intention is to ensure that all the poorest of the poor families are assisted to make their lot better. The total coverage of beneficiaries during the Sixth Plan Period was 20,717 and it was 8,258 during 1985-86.

Separate allotment is placed with Nilagiri C.D. Block which is a sub-plan area having ITDA for administration of subsidy to the Scheduled Tribe ERDP beneficiaries. Similarly, exclusive funds are placed with B. D. O., Jaleshwar, for adjustment of ERDP subsidy to the tribals in the MADA of this C.D. Block.

The following is the scheme-wise achievement under ERRP during 6th Five Year Plan Period and during 1985-86.

Name of the scheme		Achievement during 6th Plan	Achievement during 1985-86
(1)		(2)	(3)
<b>Land-based Scheme</b>			
1	Cashew ..	388	..
2	Coconut Plantation ..	2,517	..
3	Annual Cropping ..	153	..
4	Betel vine ..	132	457
<b>Total</b> ..		<b>3,190</b>	<b>457</b>

Name of the Scheme	Achievement during 6th Plan	Achievement during 1985-86
(1)	(2)	(3)
<b>Animal Husbandry Scheme</b>		
1 Dairy ..	1,609	24
2 Goat ..	4,963	178
3 Sheepary ..	74	19
4 Piggery ..	283	55
5 Poultry ..	71	21
6 Duckery ..	38	6
<b>Total</b> ..	<b>7,038</b>	<b>303</b>
<b>Fishery Scheme</b>		
1 Tank Fishery ..	1,198	...
2 Marine Fishery ..	822	48
3 Prawn culture ..	50	..
<b>Total</b> ..	<b>2,070</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Non-agricultural Implementation Scheme</b>		
1 Tailoring ..	109	83
2 Lime-making ..	5	...
3 Handloom ...	679	57
4 Carpentry ..	113	16
5 Basket-making ..	3	144
6 Bullock cart ..	306	44
7 Rickshaw ..	232	612
8 Laundry ..	1,478	50
9 Small shop & small business ..	42	5,985
10 Saloon ..	5,404	51



Name of the Scheme	Achievement during 6th Plan	Achievement during 1985-86
(1)	(2)	(3)
11. Other Item	.. 23	..
12. Blacksmith	.. 15	14
13. Repairing	.. 13	16
14. Cane-making	.. ..	1
15. Pottery	.. ..	27
16. Bee-keeping	.. ..	8
17. Mat-making	.. ..	2
18. Bidi-making	.. ..	2
19. Net-making	.. ..	1
20. Net	.. ..	51
21. Rope-making	.. ..	76
22. Khali-sticking	.. ..	253
23. Leather work	.. ..	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,422</b>	<b>7,498</b>

### National Rural Employment Programme (NREP)

In order to check further gap in employment to IRDP beneficiaries, schemes like NREP and RLEGP are being taken up so that they get adequate employment under NREP from various work programmes. Foodgrain Re.1 per man-day as the minimum are supplied to the labourers in addition to cash component of wages basing on the minimum wage fixed by the Government from time to time. NREP has thus alleviated the condition of rural poor in augmenting their income and also has enriched the assets of the community as a whole. Ten per cent of the funds under NREP is earmarked for expenditure for projects specifically benefiting Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people. Besides social forestry plantations are funded out of NREP.

The following table shows the expenditure during the 6th plan period and 1985-86 with generation of employment on different work projects in the district under NREP.

Expenditure under NREP	During 6th plan	During 1985-86
(i) Generation of man-days	45,27,000	9,52,200
(ii) Expenditure incurred	Rs. 396.967 lakhs	Rs. 130,934 lakhs

### **Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP)**

Towards the end of the Sixth Five Year Plan period, it was felt that the hard-core of rural poverty particularly pertaining to employment opportunity for the landless during the lean agricultural season has to be tackled in a more direct and specific manner. Therefore, towards the last part of 1983-84, Government of India introduced a new scheme with 100 per cent assistance from the Government called Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP), with two basic objectives, namely, (1) to improve and expand employment opportunities for rural landless with a view to providing guaranteed employment to at least one member of each landless labour household up to 100 days in a year and (2) creation of durable assets to strengthen the rural infrastructure which will lead to rapid growth of rural economy.

Under RLEGP minor irrigation projects, creek irrigation projects, rural link roads, canal and river embankment roads and houses for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and rehabilitation of bonded labourers are taken up.

The following table shows the year-wise expenditure and man-days generated under RLEGP programme in the district.

Year	Expenditure incurred (Rs in lakhs)	Man-days generated
1983-84	64.191	5,34,925
1984-85	112.176	6,38,000
	Rs. 176.367 lakhs	11,72,925

### **Training of Rural Youth for Self-employment (TRYSEM)**

Under I. R. D. programme, emphasis is laid on training the rural youths for self-employment programme and they are also rehabilitated under the scheme after they receive training with stipend as

per the Government of India norms. TRYSEM pre-supposes mainly three things for the rural youth to take up self-employment, i.e., Short Training Course, Credit facilities and marketing facilities. The objective was to train at least 40 youths in each C. D. Block. During 6th plan period 1834 persons were trained under TRYSEM out of which 1390 were rehabilitated.

### **Bonded Labour**

The Government of India enacted a legislation called the Bonded Labour Scheme (Abolition) Act, 1976, for the abolition of bonded labour system (Bethi system) with a view to preventing the economic and physical exploitation of the weaker section of the society. With effect from 25th October, 1975, every obligation of a bonded labour to re-pay any debt as remained unsatisfied stood extinguished and that bonded labour got free from such obligations. Any agreement or custom in respect of the enforcement of bonded labour system was made illegal and punishable under the Act. But the emphasis remained more on rehabilitation of the bonded labourers rather than on prosecution of bonded labourer keepers. This Act replaced the Orissa Debt Bondage Abolition Regulation 1948 which had aimed at making the Bethi system illegal without making provision for rehabilitation of the helpless bonded labourers.

A centrally sponsored planned scheme for rehabilitation of released bonded labourer came into operation in the district from the year 1982-83 on 50:50 matching contribution basis (both Central and State).

The following table shows the financial involvement and number of bonded labourers rehabilitated.

Year	Amount received (in lakhs)	Amount utilised (in lakhs)	No. of bonded labourers rehabi- litated
1984-85	34.68	20.43	648
1985-86	38.08	28.02	792

### **Poverty Alleviation Programmes**

The first Twenty Point Programme was introduced in the country in July, 1975 for the social and economic benefits of the people. It was being carried on through various schemes of the Central and the State Governments. Again the second New Twenty Point Programme was introduced from 14th July, 1982 which was again revised in 1986. This programme has great significance for

socio-economic development. The new agenda lays emphasis on realisation of specific goals which will show immediate tangible results on various sections of the people. The Government have issued various directives and guidelines from time to time for effective implementation of the programme. Frequent reviews are being made at block level, subdivisional level and district level to ensure proper implementation of the programme. The items of the new Twenty Point Economic Programme are given below.

### **New Twenty Point Economic Programme, 1986**

#### **1. ATTACK ON RURAL POVERTY**

- (i) Ensure that poverty alleviation programmes reach all the poor in every village.
- (ii) Dovetail wage employment programmes with programmes for area development and human resource development and create national and community assets like school buildings, roads, tanks, and fuel and fodder reserves.
- (iii) Co-relate the various rural development programmes to
  - (a) improve productivity and production
  - (b) expand rural employment
- (iv) Promote handlooms, handicrafts, village and small industries and improve skills for self-employment.
- (v) Revitalise Panchayats, co-operatives and local self bodies.

#### **2. STRATEGY FOR RAINFED AGRICULTURE**

- (i) Improve the technology for conserving moisture and ensure better management of land and water resources.
- (ii) Develop and distribute appropriate and improved seeds
- (iii) Reduce vulnerability to drought through suitable changes in drought-prone areas and drought-relief programmes.

#### **3. BETTER USE OF IRRIGATION WATER**

- (i) Develop catchment areas and improve drainage in basins and deltas.
- (ii) Improve irrigation management in command areas
- (iii) Prevent water-logging, salinity and wasteful use
- (iv) Co-ordinate the use of surface and ground water

#### 4. BIGGER HARVESTS

- (i) Revolutionise rice production in the eastern region and other areas of low productivity.
- (ii) Achieve self-reliance in edible oils
- (iii) Secure greater production of pulses
- (iv) Intensify the cultivation of fruit and vegetables
- (v) Augment facilities for modern storage, processing and marketing of agricultural produce
- (vi) Help livestock and dairy farmers to increase productivity
- (vii) Develop fish farming and sea fishing.

#### 5. ENFORCEMENT OF LAND REFORMS

- (i) Complete compilation of land records
- (ii) Implement agricultural land ceilings
- (iii) Distribute surplus lands to the landless.

#### 6. SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR RURAL LABOUR

- (i) Enforce minimum wages for unorganised labour in agriculture and industry
- (ii) Fully implement laws abolishing bonded labour
- (iii) Involve voluntary agencies in programmes for rehabilitation of bonded labour

#### 7. CLEAN DRINKING WATER

- (i) To provide safe water for all villages
- (ii) Assist local communities to maintain such water supply in good condition
- (iii) Pay special attention to water supply to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes

#### 8. HEALTH FOR ALL

- (i) Improve the quality of primary health centres (care)
- (ii) Fight leprosy, TB, malaria, goitre, blindness and other major diseases
- (iii) Provide immunisation for all infants and children
- (iv) Improve sanitation facilities in rural areas, particularly for women
- (v) Pay special attention to programmes for the rehabilitation of the handicapped

**9. TWO—CHILD NORMS**

- (i) Bring about voluntary acceptance of the two-child norm
- (ii) Promote responsible parenthood
- (iii) Reduce infant mortality
- (iv) Expand maternity and child care facilities

**10. EXPANSION OF EDUCATION**

- (i) Universalise elementary education with special emphasis on girls' education
- (ii) Improve the content of education at all levels
- (iii) Promote non-formal education and functional literacy programmes including promotion of skills
- (iv) Stimulate adult literacy programmes with the participation of students and voluntary agencies
- (v) Emphasise national integration and social and moral values and install pride in our heritage

**11. JUSTICE FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES**

- (i) Ensure compliance with the constitutional provisions and laws for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes
- (ii) Ensure possession of land allotted to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes
- (iii) Revitalise the land allotment programmes
- (iv) Organise and assist special coaching programmes to improve educational standards
- (v) Eradicate scavenging and undertake special programme for the rehabilitation of *safai karmacharis*
- (vi) Provide better direction and adequate funds for the special component programmes
- (vii) Pursue programmes for the fuller integration of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes with the rest of society
- (viii) Ensure the rehabilitation of tribals displaced from their habitat

## 12. EQUALITY FOR WOMEN

- (i) Raise the status of women
- (ii) Enhance awareness of the problems of women
- (iii) Create mass consciousness about women's rights
- (iv) Implement a national programme of training and employment for women
- (v) Enable women to participate with equality in socio-economic development and nation-building
- (vi) Rouse public opinion against dowry and ensure effective implementation of anti-dowry legislation

## 13. NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

- (i) Enlarge opportunities for youth in sports, adventure and cultural activities
- (ii) Promote physical fitness
- (iii) Involve youth on a massive scale in projects of national development such as;
  - (a) The cleaning of the Ganga
  - (b) The conservation and enrichment of the environment
  - (c) Mass education
- (iv) Identify outstanding young persons in all fields to encourage and develop their talents
- (v) Involve youth in promoting national integration, cultural values, secularism and the scientific temper
- (vi) Expand the network of Nehru Yubak Kendras
- (vii) Strengthen the National Service Scheme and the National Cadet Corps
- (viii) Encourage voluntary agencies working for the welfare of rural youth

## 14. HOUSING FOR THE PEOPLE

- (i) Make available house-sites to the rural poor
- (ii) Expand programmes of house construction
- (iii) Lay special emphasis on construction of houses for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes
- (iv) Develop low-cost building materials

**15. IMPROVEMENT OF SLUMS**

- (i) Restrict the growth of slums
- (ii) Provide basic facilities in existing slum areas
- (iii) Encourage planned house building in urban areas

**16. NEW STRATEGY FOR FORESTRY**

- (i) Grow more trees and raise more forest, with the full involvement of the people
- (ii) Protect the traditional rights of tribal population and local communities of access to fuel, wood and forest produce
- (iii) Reclaim wastelands for productive use
- (iv) Plant appropriate vegetation in hill, desert and coastal areas

**17. PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT**

- (i) Enhance public awareness of the dangers of environmental degradation
- (ii) Mobilise popular support for environmental protection
- (iii) Promote recognition that enduring development demands preservation of the ecology
- (iv) Ensure judicious site selection for projects and proper choice of technology

**18. CONCERN FOR THE CONSUMER**

- (i) Bring essential consumption goods within easy reach of the poor
- (ii) Build a consumer protection movement
- (iii) Restructure the distribution system so that subsidies reach the most needy
- (iv) Strengthen the public distribution system

**19. ENERGY FOR THE VILLAGES**

- (i) Expand the supply of electricity for productive use in the villages
- (ii) Develop alternate sources of energy particularly bio-gas
- (iii) Promote integrated area specific programmes for rural energy

**20. A RESPONSIVE ADMINISTRATION**

- (i) Simplify procedures
- (ii) Delegation of authority
- (iii) Enforce accountability
- (iv) Evolve monitoring system from C.D. Block to national level
- (v) Attend promptly and sympathetically to public grievances



**GENERAL LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT****Employment Exchange**

The District Employment Exchange came into existence at the district headquarters, Baleshwar, with effect from 1st April, 1958. It covers the entire revenue district of Baleshwar. Besides, to cope with the employment activities of the district, three other branch offices were opened at the subdivisional headquarters, viz., Bhadrak, Nilagiri and Jaleshwar.

The District Employment Exchange is under the control of the District Employment Officer who is assisted by one Junior Employment Officer and other clerical staff. Each branch office is also headed by one Junior Employment Officer with some assistants.

As regards the employment seekers, generally graduates in Arts, Science and Commerce, undergraduates, matriculates, unskilled workers and skilled workers like electricians, wiremen, plumbers, welders, drivers, typists and stenographers registered their names in the Employment Exchange.

The following table shows the number of registration, placement and the Live Register for the years 1981 to 1985.

Year		Registration	Placement	Live Register
1981	..	11,565	1,358	34,187
1982	..	12,854	729	33,396
1983	..	16,045	894	37,953
1984	..	14,239	653	37,865
1985	..	15,132	731	50,383

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

The Community Development Programme was introduced in the district with the inauguration of the Community Development Blocks at Similia, Bhadrak, Bant and Tihiri on 1st October, 1952. The district has been divided into 19 Community Development Blocks. Various developmental programmes in the field of agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries, health and sanitation, educational and women's programme, communication, etc., are being implemented through the Community Development Blocks in the district for general improvement of the people.

A list of the Community Development Blocks with their headquarters, number of villages, the date of inception and areas has been given in Appendix II of this chapter.

# APPENDIX I

## Statement of Minimum Wages Fixed by the Government for Different Categories of Workers (Unskilled, Semi-skilled and Skilled) in Different Times

Categories of Workers	Year	Minimum Wages per day in Rs.
(1)	(2)	(3)
A. Agriculture	1965	1.00
	1972	2.00
	1974	3.00
	1976	4.00
	1980	5.00
	1982	6.00
	1984	7.50
	1986	10.00

Categories of Workers	Minimum wages per day in Rs. (years are given in bracket)				
	(1980)	(1984)	(1985)	(1987)	
B. Non-agriculture	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
(1) Rice mill	..				
(i) Unskilled	5.00	7.00	7.50	10.00	
(ii) Semi-skilled	7.00	9.80	10.00	11.50	
(iii) Skilled	9.00	12.60	13.00	14.50	
(2) Stone breaking or stone crushing	(1976)	(1983)	(1985)	(1987)	
(i) Unskilled	4.00	6.00	7.50	10.00	
(ii) Semi-skilled	5.00	7.50	9.00	11.50	
(iii) Skilled	7.00	10.50	12.00	14.50	
(3) Salt pan	(1973)	(1982)	(1985)	(1987)	
(i) Unskilled	2.20	6.00	7.50	10.00	
(ii) Semi-skilled	..	8.00	9.00	11.50	
(iii) Skilled	..	11.00	13.00	14.50	
(4) Tile and Brick-making		(1982)	(1985)	(1987)	
(i) Unskilled	..	6.00	7.50	10.00	
(ii) Semi-skilled	..	7.50	9.00	11.50	
(iii) Skilled	..	..	..	..	

Category of workers	Minimum wages per day in Rs. (years are given in bracket)			
(5) Hotel, Eating—house, Restaurants	(1981)	(1985)	(1987)	
(i) Unskilled	5.00	7.50	10.00	
(ii) Semi-skilled	8.00	10.00	11.50	
(iii) Skilled	10.00	13.00	14.50	
(6) Chemical Industry	(1982)	(1985)	(1987)	
(i) Unskilled	7.00	7.50	10.00	
(ii) Semi-skilled	9.00	9.75	11.50	
(iii) Skilled	12.00	13.00	14.50	
(7) Film Industry	(1982)	(1985)	(1987)	
(i) Unskilled	6.00	7.50	10.00	
(ii) Semi-skilled	8.00	9.00	11.50	
(iii) Skilled	10.00	12.00	14.50	
(8) Shops and Establishments	(1980)	(1985)	(1987)	
(i) Unskilled	5.00	7.50	10.00	
(ii) Semi-skilled	8.00	9.00	11.50	
(iii) Skilled	10.00	12.00	14.50	



Categories of workers	Minimum wages per day in Rs. (years are given in bracket)			
(9) Bidi making		(1982)	(1985)	(1987)
(i) Unskilled		6.50	7.50	10.00
(ii) Semi-skilled		9.50	9.50	11.50
(iii) Skilled		10.75	12.00	14.50
(10) Printing press		(1982)	(1985)	(1987)
(i) Unskilled	(1976)	5.00	7.50	10.00
(ii) Semi-skilled		6.00	9.00	11.50
(iii) Skilled		8.00	12.00	14.50
(11) Minor Engineering Industry (Employing less than 50 persons)		(1982)	(1985)	(1987)
(i) Unskilled		5.50	7.50	10.00
(ii) Semi-skilled		6.50	9.00	11.50
(iii) Skilled		8.00	12.00	14.50
(12) Mining		(1986)		
(i) Unskilled		12.25 14.75 15.25 18.25 19.00 22.50	(for work above ground) (for work below ground) (for work above ground) (for work below ground) (for work above ground) (for work below ground)	
(ii) Semi-skilled				
(iii) Skilled				



# APPENDIX II

**A list of Community Development Blocks with their headquarters, number of villages, date of inception and areas**

Name of Blocks (1)	Headquarters (2)	Total number of villages (3)	Date of inception (4)	Area in hectares (5)
1. Nilagiri	Nilagiri	141	1.6.1957	22,359
2. Oupada	Oupada	171	1.6.1957	36,288
3. Remuna	Remuna	362	1.1.1955	31,034
4. Baleshwar	Baleshwar	287	1.4.1963	39,235
5. Jaleshwar	Jaleshwar	248	1.4.1959	35,055
6. Bhograi	Bhograi	255	1.4.1964	33,065
7. Basta	Basta	350	1.4.1958	27,764
8. Baliapal	Baliapal	239	1.10.1963	26,640
9. Soro	Soro	192	1.4.1956	25,543
10. Bahanaga	Bahanaga	163	1.10.1962	24,100
11. Khaira	Khaira	369	1.10.1957	34,108
12. Similia	Similia	159	1.10.1952	37,814

(Contd.,)

Name of Blocks	Headquarters	Total number of villages	Date of inception	Area in hectares
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
13. Tihiri	Tihiri	159	1.10.1952	27,814
14. Bhadrak	Bhadrak	162	1.10.1952	32,320
15. Bant	Bant	211	1.10.1952	28,230
16. Chandbali	Chandbali	280	1.10.1957	77,711
17. Basudebpur	Basudebpur	203	1.6.1957	40,922
18. Bhandaripokhari	Bhandaripokhari	175	1.10.1958	14,090
19. Dhamnagar	Dhamnagar	150	1.10.1956	24,054

## CHAPTER X

### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Situated on the north-east of the state, the district of Baleshwar is one of the three coastal districts of Orissa. In conformity with the uniform pattern of district administrative set-up under the British rule in India, the Collector of Baleshwar is in over-all charge of the general, revenue and developmental administration of the district. He is also designated as the District Magistrate and is thus the highest authority in the district for maintenance of law and order. With regard to superintendence and control of the administrative functions, he is under the Revenue Divisional Commissioner, Central Division, with headquarters at Cuttack (whose jurisdiction also extends to Cuttack, Puri and Mayurbhanj districts). So far as the administration of the tenancy acts, stamps, land records and surveys are concerned, he is also under the control of the Member, Board of Revenue, Orissa. The power of the Member, Board of Revenue and of the Commissioner vis-a-vis the Collector have been defined in the Orissa Board of Revenue Act, 1951 and the Orissa Revenue Divisional Commissioners Act, 1957 respectively.

At present the Collector is assisted by three officers of the class I Orissa Administrative Service designated as the Additional District Magistrate (General), Additional District Magistrate (L.R.) and Additional District Magistrate (N.R.). The Collector is put in charge of emergency, development, relief and rehabilitation and civil supplies. He is the chairman of the Regional Transport Authority and also controls the District Treasury. The three Additional District Magistrates are in supervisory charge of the other sections of the collectorate. They consult the Collector and take his orders on all important matters concerning their respective sections. The Additional District Magistrate (General) is functioning as the ex-officio District Registrar. The Additional District Magistrate (L.R.), besides being in charge of land reforms work of the district is also in charge of some other sections of the collectorate. Similarly the Additional District Magistrate (N.R.) looks after the land acquisition section in addition to the affairs of the National Test Range establishment.

For general administrative purposes, the district is divided into three subdivisions with headquarters at Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Nilagiri. Nilagiri subdivision was created in 1948 after the merger of Nilagiri ex-state.

Besides the Additional District Magistrate, the Collector is assisted by one class I junior officer designated as District Development Officer and 13 class II officers belonging to the



Orissa Administrative Service who constitute the sanctioned strength of revenue officers for the district headquarters. The Sub Collector of the Baleshwar subdivision had no separate office or establishment before 1964 as he was to assist the Collector by remaining in charge of some of the sections of the Collectorate. But, as the Sub-Collector has a host of duties to perform, his office was separated from the collectorate in 1964.

The district office of the Collector is divided into component sections like the General and Miscellaneous, Estates abolition, Compensation, Revenue, Establishment, Record Room, Judicial, Election, Emergency, Land acquisition, etc. (For details see Appendix I). Two separate officers are posted by the Government for Tribal and Rural Welfare section and Grama Panchayat section who are designated as the District Welfare Officer and District Panchayat Officer respectively. Most of the sections of the district officers are administered by the revenue officers, who are appointed by the Government to remain in charge of a particular section. The functions of these officers are to assist the Collector in taking decisions and in the efficient discharge of various administrative functions. Some of the officers like the Land Acquisition Officer, Certificate Officer and the Compensation Officer are empowered under specific laws to discharge certain statutory functions in their day to day work.

The above picture does not take into account the administration of criminal justice in the district which has been separated from the executive since 1st May 1960. By this separation, the judicial power of the Collector-cum-District Magistrate in regard to the trial of criminal cases was transferred to a new set of officers, called the Judicial Magistrates. Under this scheme, a Subdivisional Magistrate (Judicial) along with one or more Judicial Magistrate is posted in each of the subdivisions of the district. They all work under the administrative control and supervision of the Orissa High Court. With the introduction of separation scheme, an officer of the rank of a District and Sessions Judge, designated as Additional District Magistrate (Judicial) has been appointed. Subsequently an officer from the cadre of Superior Judicial Service (Junior Branch) has been posted as the Additional District Magistrate (Judicial) having headquarters at Baleshwar. Judicial Magistrates are sub-ordinate to the Additional District Magistrate (Judicial) while all the Executive Magistrates are subordinate to the Executive District Magistrate. The District Magistrate (Executive) and the Additional District Magistrate (Judicial) act independently of each other in their respective sphere of work. The Subdivisional Magistrate of the pre-separation period who used to combine both executive and judicial functions is now

designated as the Subdivisional Officer, and Magistrate 1st class with adequate powers over police for maintenance of law and order and for trying cases under preventive sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

At present there is one Chief Judicial Magistrate at district headquarters, Baleshwar. For all practical purposes he exercises all powers under the Criminal Procedure Code 1973 within the district. There is one Subdivisional Judicial Magistrate for each of the subdivisions of Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Nilagiri. The sanctioned strength of Baleshwar subdivision is 5 Judicial Magistrates of the 1st class and one Judicial Magistrate of the 2nd class. The sanctioned strength of Bhadrak subdivision is 4 Judicial Magistrates of the 1st class. A Munsif for the Nilagiri subdivision exercises the powers of the Subdivisional Judicial Magistrate, 1st class since merger of the ex-state. The District and Sessions Judge, Baleshwar is in overall charge of the entire civil and criminal administration of the district.

The Book Circular No. 34 of the State Government enjoined on the Collector to play the role of a captain of the development team which consisted of district level officers of various departments of the state. He was the Chairman of the District Development Committee and the District Development Board. The former was a representative official body while the latter consisted of officials and nominated non-officials. He was also empowered by the government to have considerable administrative control over the district level officers of other departments. The purpose of vesting him with these powers was to co-ordinate the developmental activities of various departments in the district to ensure effective implementation of all plan schemes and to frame future plans and programmes on prescribed lines keeping in view the needs of the people in the district. This set-up lost its vitality after the enforcement of the Orissa Zilla Parishad Act with effect from 26th January, 1961. According to the provisions of this Act, the developmental administration of the district was decentralised into three tiers<sup>1</sup> viz., the Zilla Parishad at the district level, the Panchayat Samiti at the Block level and the Grama Panchayat at the village level with an elected body of members at each stage. But on 1st November, 1968 the Zilla Parishad was replaced by the District Advisory Council. Since 14th November, 1970 the District Advisory Council has been replaced by the District Development Advisory Board (later renamed as District Development Board) constituted of both official and non-official members. The District Development Committee

1. See Chapter XIV (Local Self-Government) for a detailed discussion on the three-tier system.

(D. D. C.) envisaged in Book Circular No. 34 was revived with effect from 26th August 1970 giving a pivotal co-ordinating and commanding role to the Collector for smooth and effective implementation of development programmes in the district. 337 Grama Panchayats functioning in the district have elected representatives in the manner prescribed in the Zilla Parishad Act to form 19 Panchayat Samitis each of which is coterminous with a Community Development Block. Now most of the developmental schemes are implemented through the Blocks and Panchayats.

The Block Development Officer is in overall charge of the Block with a number of Extension Officers like the Agricultural Extension Officer, Social Education Organiser, Veterinary Extension Officer, Welfare Extension Officer, Block Level Extension Officer (co-operation) and Sub-Assistant Engineer under him, each being a specialist in his respective sphere and receiving technical guidance of the concerned district level officers whenever necessary.

As mentioned earlier, the Collector is designated as the District Magistrate and as such he continues to be the chief functionary under the various special Acts and other enactments in force. He is in charge of public relations and is assisted by a District Information and Public Relations Officer appointed by the Government in Information and Public Relations Department. Similarly, in respect of supply of food-grains and other essential commodities, he is assisted by the Civil Supplies Officer from the Food and Civil Supplies Department. The Additional District Magistrate (General) is the ex-officio Registrar for the district and is vested with necessary powers under the Registration Act. He is relieved of daily registration work by the District Sub-Registrar who remains in charge of this and other routine duties. The Superintendent of Excise functions directly under the supervision of the Additional District Magistrate.

The district treasury is located at Baleshwar. There are also Sub-Treasuries at Jaleshwar, Nilagiri, Soro, Bhadrak, Dhamnagar, Chandbali and Basta. These are managed by the officers belonging to the Orissa Finance Service.

The district is divided into three subdivisions, viz., Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Nilagiri. Each subdivision is in charge of a Sub Collector who belongs to the Orissa Administrative Service (class I junior). He continues to exercise within his jurisdiction all the powers of a Magistrate 1st class under the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code. He exercises powers in connection with investigation, searches, arrest

and enlargement on bails, etc., till the stage of submission of charge-sheet or to accept the final form and to dispose of any objection thereto, if filed in time. Besides he has powers of a Magistrate under the Arms Act, the Cinematography Act, the Dramatic Performance Act, etc. He also functions as the Appellate authority over the orders of the Tahasildars of his jurisdiction in revenue cases. He is entirely responsible for the maintenance of law and order in his subdivision. After separation of the judiciary from the executive, the Sub Collector only powers to take cognizance of offences complained of or brought to his notice while on tour in Mufasil areas. But such cases have to be referred to the Subdivisional Magistrate for necessary action. The Sub Collector is burdened with the responsibility of supervision of both revenue and developmental works in Tahasils and Blocks of his subdivision and to exercise effective control over all officers and staff.

Each subdivision is divided into one or more Tahasil with a Tahasildar belonging to the Orissa Administrative Service. After the abolition of estates, the responsibility for collection of land revenue has devolved directly on the Tahasil staff like the Revenue Supervisors, Revenue Inspectors and Collection Mohorirs. The Tahasildar is also the Certificate Officer for recovering arrears of land revenue, Irrigation rates, Cess and miscellaneous revenue, and Taccavi loans. The Revenue Supervisors supervise collection, make enquiry into revenue cases and assist the Tahasildar in revenue matters.

### **Baleshwar Subdivision**

The office of the subdivisional officer, Baleshwar was separated from the Collectorate in the year 1964. The Sub collector is functioning as a full-fledged head of office with a separate staff under him. He is assisted by four gazetted officers who are posted as the Revenue Officer, The Certificate Officer, the Nizarat Officer and the Emergency Officer. This subdivision has been divided into 4 Tahasils, viz., Jaleshwar, Basta, Baleshwar and Soro. There are 10 C. D. Blocks and 166 Grama Panchayats under this Subdivision.

### **Nilagiri Subdivision**

The Nilagiri subdivision was formed in 1948 after merger of the ex-state in Orissa. The Sub Collector is assisted by three other gazetted officers posted as the Revenue Officer, the Subdivisional Panchayat Officer and the Assistant District Welfare Officer. Besides this, there is one officer in-charge of civil and criminal courts.

There is one Tahasil with a Tahasildar with headquarters at Nilagiri, who assists the Sub Collector in revenue matters and in maintenance of law and order. The subdivision has been divided into two C.D. Blocks, viz., Nilagiri and Oupada. There are 32 Grama Panchayats in this subdivision.

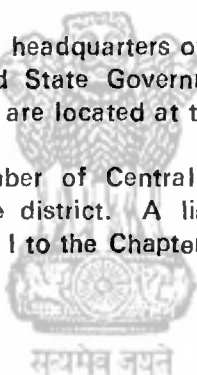
### **Bhadrak Subdivision**

The Bhadrak subdivision was established in the year 1927. The Sub Collector is functioning as the head of office and is assisted by five other gazetted officers of Orissa Administrative Service.

The subdivision has been divided into five Tahasils, viz., Bhadrak, Dhamnagar, Chandbali, Tihiri, and Basudebpur. There are 7 C. D. Blocks and 139 Grama Panchayats in this subdivision.

Baleshwar being the headquarters of the district, numerous offices of both Central and State Governments, including various sections of the collectorate are located at this place.

There are also a number of Central and State Government offices in other parts of the district. A list of these offices has been given in the Appendix I to the Chapter.



## APPENDIX I

**Offices Located at Baleshwar****GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

Proof and Experimental Establishment

Assistant Engineer, Central Flood Forecasting

Superintendent of Posts and Telegraphs

Branch Manager, Life Insurance Corporation

District Manager, Food Corporation of India

Superintendent of Central Excise

Income-Tax Office

Assistant Engineer, open line, South Eastern Railway

Meteorological Office

**GOVERNMENT OF ORISSA**

Sub Collector

Tahasil Office

Deputy Inspector General of Police

Superintendent of Police,

Deputy Director,, Agriculture

Deputy Director, Fisheries (Marine)

Deputy Director, Fisheries (Inland)

Deputy Director, Consolidation of Holdings

Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies

Charge Officer, Baleshwar-Mayurbhanj Major Settlement

Superintending Engineer, P.W.D. (R & B)

Executive Engineer, P.W.D. (R & B)

Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division

Executive Engineer, Lift Irrigation

Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division

Executive Engineer, Public Health

Executive Engineer, National Highway

Superintending Engineer, Electrical

Executive Engineer, Electrical

District & Sessions Judge

District Planning Authority

Chief District Medical Officer

District Treasury Officer

District Agriculture Officer

Chief Veterinary Officer

District Statistical Officer  
District Employment Office  
District Health Office  
District Industries Centre  
District Rural Development Agency  
Divisional Forest Office, C.S.B. Division  
Regional Transport Office  
District Transport Manager, O.S.R.T. Corporation  
Assistant Tourist Office  
Inspector of Schools  
District Inspector of Schools  
Inspector of Factories  
Assistant Labour Commissioner  
Assistant Commissioner, Commercial Taxes  
Assistant Soil Conservation Office  
Assistant Controller, Weights & Measures  
Collectorate :  
General and Miscellaneous  
Revenue  
Tauzi  
Establishment  
Nizarat  
Library  
Judicial  
District Election  
District Emergency  
Compensation Zone I  
Compensation Zone II  
Superintendent of Excise  
District Information and Public Relations  
Land Acquisition  
Civil Supplies  
District Welfare  
District Development  
District Panchayat

Special Land Acquisition  
 District Record Room  
 District Sports  
 Assistant Director, Planning  
 District Development Advisory Board  
 District Social Welfare  
 Superintendent of Land Records

**Main Offices located at Bhadrak**

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

Food Corporation of India  
 Commanding Officer, N.C.C.  
 Branch Manager, Life Insurance Corporation of India

**GOVERNMENT OF ORISSA**

Sub Collector  
 Tahasil Office  
 Executive Engineer, Electrical  
 Executive Engineer, Irrigation  
 Executive Engineer, Lift Irrigation  
 Executive Engineer, Public Health Division (DANIDA)  
 Executive Engineer, Command Area Development Agency  
 District Agriculture Office  
 District Inspector of Schools, Bhadrak-I Circle  
 District Inspector of Schools, Bhadrak-II Circle  
 District Labour Office  
 Deputy Director, Consolidation of Holdings  
 Commercial Tax Office  
 Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies  
 Divisional Forest Office, Wild Life Conservation, Chandbali

**Main Offices located at Nilagiri**

**GOVERNMENT OF ORISSA**

Sub Collector  
 Tahasil Office  
 Integrated Tribal Development Agency  
 Circle Inspector of Police  
 Subdivisional Judicial Magistrate



## CHAPTER XI

### REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

#### EARLY REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

The history of Balashwar (excluding Nilagiri ex-state) as a separate district commenced from the year 1828 upto which time it had formed a portion of Cuttack district under the administration of a single Collector. There are, therefore, no district records as such previous to that year. Such information as is available regarding revenue history under the Hindu kings, the Mughals and the Marhatas exhibit few details specially applicable to this district. However, before coming to some accounts of early British settlement it may be necessary to glance cursorily at the earlier revenue systems.

#### Hindu Administration

In the time of Hindu kings of Orissa, the country was broadly divided into two administrative Divisions, i.e. military fiefs composed of the hilly tracts on the western border together with a strip along the coast on the east and the crown lands consisting of the more fertile alluvial plains running through the centre of the province. The former had been granted to military chiefs by the reigning sovereign on condition that they protected the border and furnished contingencies to the State Army in the time of war. They were regarded as "proprieters" having title of Bhuyan or as translated by the Mughals "Zamindar". The other more valuable portion of the country comprising the greater part of the present districts of Cuttack, Balashwar and Puri was regarded as the property of the crown. The rents were collected from the cultivators and paid into the royal treasury by the hereditary officials who were also entrusted with the police administration of the villages under them. The Hindu rulers recognised no middle-men between them and their subjects. Every cultivator was in theory bound to pay to the sovereign roughly about 1/6th of the produce of the land. The residents of each village paid their quota to the headmen of the village called Padhan. The unit of collection was the revenue village consisting of a collection of houses and the land, cultivated or waste, attached to it. A group of villages made up the district called Khand or Bisi. The names of some of such fiscal divisions still survive in certain Parganas as Noa-Khand or Derabishi. Over each Khand or Bisi, were the supervising officers, viz., the Khandapati who was charged with general management including control of police and the Bisoi (also called Bhoimul), who was charged with collection of revenue, though both were jointly responsible for the payment to the royal treasury. The others were miscellaneous servants and officials. Each revenue village had also two officials,

the Padhan and the Bhoi. It was the job of the Bhoi to check the village accounts. All these officials were in practice though not in theory hereditary. They enjoyed free of all payments a certain share not exceeding 1/20th of the total land revenue under collection and were also allowed to retain some part of the collection as perquisite of their offices. This was the system in the regular provinces of the Hindu kingdom but along the hilly borders and on the scantily populated littoral sea-coast the land was held by the military chiefs who paid tributes to their suzerain and were independent as regards the internal administration of their areas.

### Mughal Administration

The Khandapati and Bisoi who held hereditary office appear to have been confirmed by Todarmal, Akbar's victorious General who in 1568 annexed the province after it had been over-run and plundered by the Afghans during some 50 years before. Henceforward the Khands and Bisis were called Parganas. The nomenclature of "pargana" as a fiscal division survived the period of Maratha and British administration. The Khandapatis received the title of Choudhury. The Bisois or Bhoimuls became Kanungos. The Padhan became the Makadam and the revenue village was known as Mouza. The Parganas were divided into two or more subdivisions called Taluks and the officials were known as Talukdars, a name subsequently applied to all Pargana officials. The Parganas were grouped under three main divisions or Sarkars as Cuttack, Bhadrak and Jaleshwar, each of which was incharge of an Amil or Chief Executive Officer. It was Todarmal who consolidated the Mughal rule in Orissa. One of his first acts as administrator was a detailed survey and settlement of the crown lands, now called Mughalbandi, taken up in 1580 in all the three Sarkars of Cuttack, Bhadrak and Jaleshwar. Rates of rent were fixed for each village. This settlement was concluded in 1591 by Raja Man Singh. The revenue as given in the Ain-i-Akabari was fixed at Rs. 17 lakhs for the whole of the province (According to Stirling the revenue of the province under the Mughals was 15.89 lakhs of rupees). In the Ain-i-Akabari the revenue for the four Sarkars of Balleshwar district which then included a portion of Jajpur has been stated as follows:—

	No. of Mahals	Revenue in Rs.
Bhadrak Sarkar	19	4,02,131
Soro Sarkar	15	1,97,814
Remuna Sarkar	20	2,18,458
Basta Sarkar	10	1,18,752
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>9,37,155</b>

The border chieftains were left untouched. The hereditary Hindu officials of the Parganas were confirmed in possession of their lands. The revenue system of the Hindus was maintained almost intact by Todarmal and Man Singh, both being of Hindu stock. The hereditary officials while being entrusted with the collection of revenue were also vested with other rights and liabilities of zamindars for the portion of the Pargana or Taluk under their direct management. The village headman now called Makadam who had the customary right to hold one acre in twenty free of assessment was now given a definite quantity of land as Jagir. Where there were no hereditary headman or where the Padhan had been dispossessed, collections were often made through an agent or farmer called Sarbarakar appointed by the Talukdar and many of them developed into hereditary tenure-holders with rights almost equal to those of Makadams. The Talukdars and superior officers were nominally appointed by the sovereign or his representative and could be removed from their office for bad conduct. But under the two centuries of misrule and revolt that followed Akbar's reign, their hold on the land grew stronger and the right to appoint lapsed into a purely formal custom of confirming the heir of the deceased official. Even the Amil and the Sadar Kanungo came to hold large estates stepping into the shoes of dispossessed Talukdars for whom they stood security and they all claimed proprietary right. This was the origin of the myriads of proprietary, sub-proprietary and proprietary tenure-holder rights which we find during the long period of British rule in Orissa. Their office was abolished by the Marathas who appointed Amils and Sadar Kanungos of their own and at British conquest those ex-officials were found as holders of a large and valuable estates.

Besides the Talukdars there were also a few land-holders in possession of a whole Pargana. They alone were officially styled as zamindars as they were generally either descendants of old reigning princes, as in case of Zamindar of Utikan, who was the Raja of Kanika, or were border chiefs (Khandait or Bhuyan) such as those of Darpan, Madhupur, Balarampur or Ambo. Besides a good many superior officials of the status of Amils were also appointed as zamindars in return for special services. Like the Talukdars, they also held under deeds of appointment. Though their position was more honourable, their rights and liabilities did not in any way differ from those of Pargana officials. In fact, there was a general fusion of rights and titles of the hereditary zamindars, officials and officially created zamindars. Whilst Talukdars became exalted to the rank of zamindars, the proper zamindars mounted a step higher and styled themselves as Rajas.

## **Maratha Administration**

In 1751 Orissa became a Maratha province under the control of a Subedar. The new conquerors made in theory no change in the fiscal organization and recognised people whom they found to be in possession of land without asking inconvenient questions. Balleshwar was divided into three Chakalas or circles, i. e. Bhadrak, Soro and Balleshwar. These were again subdivided into 150 Parganas each of which included a varying number of Taluks. The revenue administration of the whole area was entrusted to 32 officers called Amils. Each Amil was responsible for the revenue of each Chakala and he was assisted by a Sadar Kanungo under whom there were Gumastas also known as Villayati Kanungos, who made the mufasil collections. The Maratha Subedars recognised only those Talukdars who regularly paid revenue without any trouble. They commenced to oust the Talukdars on the ground of non-punctuality in payment of revenue and towards close of their rule, it also became a common practice to take engagements direct from the village headmen or Makadams who had previously paid through the Talukdars. About 1/8th of the total revenue paying area was so held by Makadams. Though it had previously been the custom to make the yearly detailed computation of rentals on which the Makadami was allowed a percentage for collection expenses, towards the close of the century the Amils found it convenient to take engagements from them for a lumpsum. This custom was also followed to some extent with those Talukdars who were fortunate enough to be left in possession of their estates. It was Raja Ram Pandit, described by Stirling as the most enlightened of the Maratha Subedars, who first commenced to dispense with the Talukdars as collection agents in 1773. This resulted in disappearance of a large number of those hereditary officers. The Sadar Kanungo who generally stood security for payment of revenue by the Talukdars was allowed in cases of default to take over the Taluk on payment by him of the arrears. At the British accession both the Sadar and Villayati Kanungos were found in possession of a large number of estates, who later claimed proprietary right over the lands held by them during the enquiries held by the British officers and were recognised as such in most cases.

## **Early British Administration**

When the British conquered Orissa in 1803 it comprised an area of 8085 sq. miles (20940 sq. km.). It was divided into two districts, viz., Cuttack and Puri. (The revenue administration of Balleshwar, excluding Nilagiri ex-state, finally acquired its present

dimensions in 1870 when the northern boundary was defined and the Baitarani and the Dhamara rivers were made the southern limit of Balashwar. No revenue documents worth the name were obtainable from the officials of Maratha Government except certain Jamabandi papers or records of assessment. The Kanungos and Patwaris who were the depositories of all information and other relevant materials about land revenue administration were not only indifferent but also hostile towards the new Government.

The first British proclamation about the land revenue administration of Orissa was made on the 15th September 1804. This was later embodied in the Regulation XII of 1805. Before this, an area of 186 square miles (482 sq.km.) in 150 permanently settled estates towards extreme north of Balashwar was originally a part of the district of Midnapur in West Bengal, as early as 1760. Therefore, this area lying between two rivers of Rupnarayanpur and Subarnarekha came within the purview of the Permanent Settlement Regulation of 1793 enacted by Lord Cornwallis. As a result, before Orissa was conquered a part of Balashwar district had come under the touch of Permanent Settlement. The rest of the area of the district was subjected to as many as eleven annual, biennial, triennial, quinquennial and decennial settlements till 1837. This was completely a new experience to the people as Orissa was subjected to long term settlements during the pre-British days.

All authorities have agreed that the early British revenue administration was disastrous in its effect on zamindars and raiyats alike. If to the errors of administration be added the severe natural calamities to which the district was subjected in the early part of 19th century, it is not difficult to understand and concur in the assertion that the people were not better off under the British rule than they had been under the Marathas. The causes contributing to the wretched state of affairs of the district in the early part of the 19th century may be summed up as follows:—

- (1) Disorganization of the administration
- (2) Severity of assessment
- (3) Introduction of Bengal Sale Laws
- (4) Natural calamities to which the district was subjected
- (5) Promise of a permanent settlement eventually denied

Stirling's minute of 1821 was the first attempt made to deal exhaustively with the principles of revenue settlement but it was not until the settlement of 1837—45 that the rights and titles of the land

owners were finally settled and adjusted. Meantime there was utter confusion. Maratha officials, viz., Amil, Sadar, Kanungos, Talukdars and Makadams were all intent on preserving for their own use the information which should have been at the hands of Government. Those persons in whom the actual collection of rent was vested were not interested in disclosing the real amount of their collection, while their supervisors used their knowledge as a means of extortion by threatening to disclose to the authorities the fact of under assessment. Some were busy in establishing a zamindary title which had never existed, others in furthering the claim to hold lands liable to assessment as rent free. "The hands of the most were against their neighbours and every man's hands was against Government". The early Collectors being accustomed to the stringency of Bengal Regulations were not at all inclined to admit claims for reduction of the demand on various grounds admitted by Marathas such as failure or shortage of crops owing to drought or flood. No reductions were allowed on ground of abandonment or non-cultivation though such reductions had hitherto been customary. The demand at the earlier British settlement was considerably in excess of that of Marathas. The severity of early settlement was subsequently fully recognized and in settlement of 1837—45 large reductions were made in previous revenue in certain parts of the district.

Since assessments were severe it was not surprising that there were many defaults in payment. The introduction and enforcement of the Bengal Revenue Sale Laws was perhaps the most unfortunate feature of the early British rule. At least half of the estates in the district changed hands between 1805 and 1822. The policy was certainly disastrous as regards old hereditary official families as very few of them were left at the settlement of 1837—45. (These measures have often been stated to have resulted in the extinction of the Oriya zamindars as the predominantly land-holders of Orissa. They were supplanted in Cuttack and Puri districts generally by Bengalis who were some times wealthy absentees, but very often Amlas of the Collectorate. This problem was not so severe in Baleshwar district, because Baleshwar was not made a separate district until 1828 and until that time revenue administration was centred at Cuttack. It was natural that the Bengali Amlas being residents of Cuttack, preferred the acquisition of estates nearer their homes. The proximity was convenient and they were much better aware of the circumstances of the properties. Trade interests on the other hand drew a considerable number of Bengali merchants to Baleshwar and only after 1828 they began to turn their attention towards acquisition of estates, when with Rickets as Collector, the old sale policy of selling the estates of the defaulters was put aside in practice.

The families of Raja Baikuntha Nath De, the Kars and Bhagaban Ch. Das of Baleshwar town date their rise as zamindars from this period. During the settlement of 1837—45 out of 1,509 recorded proprietors only 174, i.e., 21 per cent were Bengalis as against 78 per cent Oriyas).

In this confused and disturbed state of the province the question of permanent settlement was mooted in 1806. In fact, orders were actually given to make preparations for its introduction. But this proposal was strongly resisted by the local officers. Though Regulation VI of 1808 held out to the proprietor hopes which were frequently renewed in the subsequent regulations the decision was postponed from year to year, until eventually in 1816 it was practically withdrawn. The policy for making a number of short term settlements each of which was intended to be a preparatory for a permanent one was most ruinous in its effect. The proprietors were interested in concealing their collections and throwing lands out of cultivation in order to get better terms at the permanent settlement. Some, whose estates were extremely overassessed did not like to forsake the property which was seen to be settled with them for ever. None were desirous for improving the conditions of their lands and their tenantry. Regulation VII of 1822 which extended the previous settlement for a period of 5 years provided also rules for revision of that settlement. It was proposed that each year a certain number of estates should be taken up in hand, information should be collected and recorded with reference to interests of all persons in the land from the Raiyats upwards, that tables of rates should be prepared and this work should be undertaken by the Collectors in addition to their routine works. As a consequence scarcely anything was done and in 1831 the Collector of Baleshwar, Rickets, had completed the settlement of only one small estate and was about to undertake that of the Government Khamsal of Nananda. Rickets in his explanation had stated "That he saw no prospect whatever of a settlement under Regulation VII ever being completed. It was 9 years since that Regulation had been passed and in that time 1/400th had been settled, a rate of proceeding which would require three thousand five hundred ninety one years for the completion of the district". He, therefore, recommended for a separate set of officials to be employed exclusively for settlement work under the supervision of the Collector. The recommendation was finally accepted by the Board but the work of revision did not commence until appointment of Maffat Mills as Special Commissioner in 1837.

#### **Settlement of 1837—45**

The unit of revenue assessment during the British period right from the beginning till the abolition of the estates under the Estates Abolition Act, 1951, was the "estates". This was defined in the Bengal Tenancy Act and repeated in the Orissa Tenancy Act as

"Estate means land included under one entry in any of the general registers of revenue-paying lands, and revenue-free lands prepared and maintained under the law for the time being in force by the Collector of a district, and includes Government Khasmahals and revenue-free lands not entered in any register; and including also the sub-proprietary interests....."During the settlement operations, this was described as "mahal" or tauzi, meaning revenue paying lands and "lakhraj bahal" or simply "bahal" meaning revenue-free lands. The interest of a sub-proprietor who executed an agreement in course of settlement of land revenue to make payment of his land revenue through a proprietor or another sub-proprietor was also termed as "estate". During the Mughal and Marhatta period it has already been stated that parganas were sub divided into taluks which still remained as collection centres. But owing to alienations or combination of land of various taluks many "estates" became possessed of areas outside the border of their proper pargana; those areas were *de-facto* included in that pargana. It became the custom to regard any village greater part of which belonged to an estate in another pargana as a "tahasil-alahida" village of that pargana and the same confusion was imported into the designation of small portions of villages which belonged to an estate holding a neighbouring village, these being regarded as "tahasil-alahidas" of that village. The pargana or estate division therefore bears little reference to physical or other factors considered as a local division. They are confusing. The number of parganas existing in Baleshwar district was 67, divided into five groups, viz., northern parganas (12), upper central parganas (18), lower central parganas (4 including Banchas-egar group), south-eastern parganas (10), south-western parganas (12), the Banchas-egar group itself consisting of 12 parganas. At the time of 1837—45 settlement, there were 953 estates including 150 permanently settled estates in Baleshwar. Excluding killas Ambo (since transferred to Kendujhar district after merger), Mangalpur and Patna, the revenue of which amounting to only Rs.1725 was fixed under special orders, the previous revenue of the district which amounted to Rs. 3,41,332/-was settled for Rs. 3,83,498. The net increase was, therefore, only Rs.42,166 of which Rs.35,434 was contributed by resumed lakhraj holdings. Some reductions (31, 867) in revenue were allowed in estates along the sea coast and in the north of the district and some increases (73,853) were made in south-western parganas where there had been greater extension of cultivation. This settlement had not been undertaken with any view to benefitting the exchequer, but to equalise the assessment "which had been fixed and augmented haphazard without reference to the capabilities of the estates, to fix boundaries and decide disputes relating to them on the spot, to settle all questions of rights and tenures between landlords, and



tenants, and to enquire into the validity of the multitudinous rent-free tenures". The total settlement cost incurred in this district was Rs. 5,11,896 and a large share of this expense was assignable to the resumption proceedings. In fact no less than 81,673 claims to hold land revenue free were investigated. In this settlement in Baleshwar, the cultivated areas dealt with amounted to 2,10,963 hectares of which 1,99,753 hectares were assessed, i.e., a little more than half the total area of the temporarily settled estates. The Regulations provided for the investigation of all claims to hold land revenue free. In this settlement systematic recordings were undertaken to decide these claims and those found valid were confirmed in perpetuity. The class of tenants known as Bajyaptidars originated in the failure of some of these claims. Out of 81,673 claims to hold lands Lakharaji or revenue free more than half, i.e., 42,200 were found to hold on invalid titles and therefore were resumed and assessed on Bajyapti tenure.

In the discussion about term of the settlement, the authorities considered various aspects from theoretical and practical stand points. A period of 30 years was considered to be advantageous for agricultural improvement. That would balance the vagaries of natural calamities and currency depreciations. The first thirty years of settlement was to expire in 1867 A. D. when Orissa was in the grip of a serious famine, i.e., "Na-anka Durvikhya". The famine had completely dislocated the administration and shattered the economy of Orissa. The authorities were not in a position to undertake the responsibility of a new settlement. Moreover, even if there were a new settlement, the Jumma could not have risen more than what it was in 1837 settlement, because vast areas were left uncultivated. It was, therefore, decided to extend the first thirty years settlement to another 30 years instead of making a new settlement. Thus the settlement of 1837 which was to end in 1867 was extended to 1897. Those who later advocated against the prolongation for another thirty years contended that "this extreme leniency was scarcely needed, and that a resettlement might well have been made some twenty-five years ago, to the advantage of Government and without undue harassment of the people. The result of the excessive prolongation of the former settlement was the exclusion of Government for a lengthy period from its fair share of the produce of the soil, and retention by the landlord classes in Orissa during the same period of profits to which they had no equitable right".

During the period of long settlement there was all-round progress in agriculture, communication and trade. The prices of staple crops were trebled securing considerable profits to the cultivator.

**Settlement of 1889—1899 (Provincial settlement)**

The next settlement was made during the years 1889—1899 which is generally known as Maddox Settlement or Provincial Settlement. This was the work of a great magnitude. The operation extended over a period of 10 years from the end of 1889 to the end of 1899 and over an area of 12,949.50 sq. km. It covered the whole of the temporarily settled areas in Cuttack, Puri and Balashwar districts including the revenue free estates, as well as the Killas of Darpan, Madhupur and Aul. The area under settlement in Balashwar was 1,710.75 sq. miles (4,430.92 sq. km.) computed as follows:—

Area of temporarily settled estates	..	9,59,100	acres
Area of Lakharaj Bahal lands	..	1,09,000	acres
Area of Government lands	..	13,600	acres
		<hr/>	
		10,81,700	acres
Deduct lands of Balashwar estates in (—)		7,700	acres
Cuttack district		<hr/>	
Balance	..	10,74,000	acres
Add lands of Cuttack estates in	..	+ 20900	acres
Balashwar district		<hr/>	
		10,94,900	acres
		<hr/>	
		=4430.92	sq. km.

(The area of the district as stated in Maddox Report is 2076.88 sq. miles or 5379.00 sq. km. which includes 1,11,923 acres or 452.93 sq. km. of permanently settled estates of Kanika in Balashwar district and 1,21,376 acres or 491 sq. km. of permanently settled estates where settlement was not done). The revenue was fixed at Rs. 6,26,177/- giving an incidence of 92 paise per acre in 1,417 temporarily settled estates (19 Khasmahals included) including Killas Ambo and Mangalpur, the revenue of which were fixed nominally at 440 and 1130 respectively under special orders of Government. The settled assets were 11,51,400 the revenue being fixed at 50 to 55 per cent of the gross assets. The enhancement made in the land revenue was as much as 67 per cent which appears *prima facie* large. It must be remembered that where the zamindars received an income of about Rs. 1,88,000 at the time of previous settlement, in this settlement they received an income of about Rs. 5,23,300. Thus, while the revenue had been enhanced by 67 per cent their income increased by 163 per cent. The revenue of the temporarily settled areas was revised

and fresh engagement taken for a period of 30 years from 1897. The rents of the tenants were settled under section 104 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, 1885. The total area of the temporarily settled estates increased in this settlement during the last sixty years from 3,81,539 hectares to 3,88,257 hectares, or by rather less than 2 per cent where as the cultivated area increased from 2,10,963 hectares to 2,82,188 hectares and the assessed area increased from 1,99,753 hectares to 2,80,786 hectares.

### Revision Settlement (1906—1912)

After completion of this provincial settlement the first revision settlement which is generally known as Jame's settlement started in 1906 and continued till 1912. In this settlement the revenue was unaffected, but settlement of rent was done by application of the parties under section 105 of the Bengal Tenancy Act. This revision settlement was undertaken primarily to clear the way for continued maintenance of records, but the maintenance scheme was ultimately ordered to be abandoned by the Government of India. This revision operation brought prominently to notice the unsuitability of the Bengal Tenancy Act to Orissa conditions and led to enactment of the Orissa Tenancy Act in 1913. Some of the permanently settled estates which had not been included in the provincial settlement were taken up during this operation.

### Dalziel Settlement (1922—1932)

The next comprehensive survey and settlement operation covering both permanently and temporarily settled estates was conducted during the period 1922—1932 which is known as Dalziel Settlement. The area included in this revision settlement operation covered an area of 2056 sq. miles (5325 sq. km.) in this district, computed as follows :

Permanently settled estates	...	336 sq. miles
Temporarily settled estates	...	1,512 sq. miles
Revenue free estates	...	172 sq. miles
Government lands	...	36 sq. miles
		<hr/>
		2056 sq. miles
		(=) 5,325 sq. km.

By Dalziel Settlement also there were still some estates in the Tauzi roll of Baleshwar and Cuttack which had lands partly in Cuttack and partly in Baleshwar district as given below :

	No.	Area
Lands in Cuttack included in Tauzi of Baleshwar.	109	5,241.02 acres (2,121 hectares)
Lands in Baleshwar district included in Tauzi of Cuttack	158	5,496.34 acres (2,224 hectares)

Partitions since last settlement led to an increase in the number of temporarily settled estates from 1398 to 2394. The area assessed in those estates during this settlement was 7,41,703 acres (3,00,158 hectares) and unassessed area was 1,98,199 acres (80,208 hectares). As a result of the settlement of rents in this settlement the gross assets rose to Rs. 15,45,438. The revenue of the temporarily settled estates rose by 37.5 per cent to 8,20,404 representing 53.1 per cent of the gross assets. The proportion of assets taken as revenue remained practically unchanged in keeping with the approved policy of the Government, i. e., the revenue percentage should lie between 50 and 55. The third settlement which started in 1962 is still in progress. It will be discussed in separate paragraphs.

### **Settlement in ex-state areas of Nilagiri**

The previous revenue history of the ex-state of Nilagiri is obscure. The first settlement was undertaken in the year 1849 during the time of Raja Krushna Chandra Mardaraj Harichandan and was concluded in the year 1853. According to this settlement the revenue of the ex-state was Rs. 15,233 on an assessed area of 12,255 acres (4,960 hectares). One Bengali officer was deputed to do the settlement. He applied certain Bengal rates which the cultivators accepted. No record is available regarding the principles followed in applying these rates. The second settlement was done by the same raja after a lapse of 33 years in 1886 and was completed in 1897. This settlement showed an increase of about 50% both in revenue and in area. The revenue came up to Rs. 49,412 on an assessed area of 26,169 acres (10,590 hectares). In both these settlements the unit of an area was a Mana which is equivalent to 0.62 acres (0.25 hectares). Lands were measured by means of a rod of 8'-3" in length. No maps were prepared. Records prepared were Khasra, Khatian, Jamabandhi and Ekapadia or rent roll. A copy of the

land records was given to each headman of the village for the purpose of collection of rent. The period of this second settlement was 20 years on the expiry of which a third settlement was undertaken in the year 1917 and concluded in 1922. In the third settlement survey was done with more delicate instruments to obtain greater accuracy. Village maps and detailed record-of-right of the tenants were prepared on the area. For the first time in the history of the ex-state, a copy of the Khatian called Parcha was granted to each raiyat. The documents were very much appreciated by the holders. The village boundaries were laid by plain table. The maps and records prepared were very much reliable. Lands were classified on the basis of nature of the soil, situation and advantage and disadvantages. Rates of rent fixed were on the productivity of different classes of lands and on the basis of the produce. Rent was enhanced under section 32 of the Bengal Tenancy Act in consideration of the rise in prices. The gross rental was Rs. 83,994 on an assessed area of 32047 acres (12969 hectares). The net revenue of the state after deduction of collection of charges was Rs. 73,496. The period of this settlement was 14 years, which expired in 1936. No new settlement was taken up thereafter owing to economic circumstances until the ex-state merged in Orissa on 1st January 1948. The next settlement was taken up in 1962 alongwith other areas of Baleshwar district which will be discussed in separate paragraphs.

#### **LAND TENURES**

##### **Land tenures in Baleshwar district excluding Nilagiri**

Interests in the land in the state were made more complicated in the early period of the British and they varied with minor distinction between rights of different classes which led to litigations in various courts. The series of settlements and tenancy legislations have since gone a long way in reducing their number and variety. Prior to the enactment of land reform and tenancy legislations various kinds of interests in land were existing in the districts of Cuttack and Puri as well as in this district. They were as follows:

- (1) The so-called 'proprietors' directly responsible to the state for the revenue of the land they own, i.e., zamindars and revenue free proprietors called Lakharaj Baheldars.
- (2) Tenure holders with quasi-proprietary rights, holding under the proprietors, viz. Maqadam, Padhans and Sarbarakars, etc.
- (3) Holders of resumed revenue free tenures or Bazyaptidars.
- (4) Purchasers of waste lands, reclaimed and settled called Kharidadars.

- (5) Resident cultivators, whose right to hold at a rent fixed for the term of settlement was recognised, viz., Thani and Chandana raiyats.
- (6) Cultivators who had no such recognised rights, i.e., Pahi-raiyats, occupancy and non-occupancy.
- (7) Persons holding land free of rent in consideration of their services to an individual or to the community, i.e., Jagirdars.
- (8) Under tenants of classes (3) to (7)
- (9) Government estates or Khasmahals.

Incidence of their rights and liabilities are described in brief as follows;

### **Proprietors**

There were several classes of persons who under the Mughal and Maratha rules were directly responsible for payment of revenue to the state. They were the following;

- (1) Ancient zamindars or Rajas of the Killajat estates.
- (2) Zamindars of Mughal or Maratha creation.
- (3) Choudhuri and Kanungo Talukdars.
- (4) Mazkuri Makadams.
- (5) Mazkuri Sarbarakars.
- (6) Holders of Kharidagi (purchased) land.

None of them except only the zamindars and the Khandayats of the border had before the British conquest any recognised proprietary right, although a custom of hereditary succession had grown up. On the acquisition of the province by the British engagements for payment of revenue were taken from the holders of several classes of estates borne on the revenue roll of the Marathas and also from the holders of the small Taluks and zamindars included in large estates and from the hereditary Makadami who for five years past had paid their revenue directly into the public treasury. To these were subsequently added the holders of lands of more than 75 acres in extent which were alleged to have been held rent free or on a quit-rent but were resumed and assessed during general enquiry. Though not so stated all these persons appear to have been regarded as "actual proprietors of the land" under section VI of Regulation XII of 1805. Either purposely or owing to misunderstanding of their true position, these collectors and payers of revenue were allowed all the rights of proprietors subject only to the liability to sale of their estates for default and to dispossession for improper conduct. Their various titles of

Choudhury, Kanungo and Makadams soon merged into the more honorific appellation of "Zamindar". They held three classes of estates, viz., permanently settled estates, temporarily settled estates and revenue free estates. The incidence of rights of the proprietors of these three classes of estates was more or less similar except in respect of revenue. In the permanently settled estates, the revenue was fixed for ever. In the temporarily settled estates, the revenue was fixed for the term of the settlement subject only to reduction for acquisition of land by Government and in the revenue free estates, no revenue was payable by the proprietor to the Government but only cesses were paid. The incidence of their rights and duties as grown up during the British rule were as follows:

- (1) Right to inherit according to the personal law of the proprietor.
- (2) Right to transfer the whole or any portion of the estate.
- (3) Right to partition subject to the security of the revenue.
- (4) Right to receive rent fixed in the settlement and to all profits of new cultivations and to lawful increment of rents.
- (5) Right to all profits from the jungles and waste land, and other unassessed areas and from fisheries and forest, subject to the prescriptive rights of the community.
- (6) Right of co-sharers to open a separate account and pay their revenue separately into the treasury.
- (7) Obligation to treat ryots well and not to collect unauthorised cesses.
- (8) Obligation to give information to the police for breach of peace and certain cognisable offences.
- (9) Liability of the estates for sale in the event of default in payment of revenue before the latest date.
- (10) Obligation to supply Rasad (supplies) under Regulation XI of 1806.

From the British period, the proprietors were permitted to enjoy the right of inheritance according to Hindu Law and not according to the law of primogeniture which was in force previous to the British conquest. They were also given almost unlimited right of partition and absolute right of sale and transfer. This led to multiplication and tininess of the estates and placed in their hands the instrument of their own destruction. It is only in the Killajat estates that the law of primogeniture was followed in which the estate passed on to the eldest son, others being provided by grant of Viradar Jagir lands.

Although there were 150 permanently settled estates in Baleshwar (Dalziel Report speaks of 189 such estates), none of them were governed by law of primogeniture. But unlike in Cuttack there were a few Killas in Baleshwar. They were only four in number, namely, Ambahata, Patna, Mangalpur and Ambo (Ambo has since been transferred to Kendujhar district after merger). They were held on military tenures subject to payment of a tribute and their circumstances differed little from those of the tributary states, until the British accession. Although assessed with special leniency the latter 3 Killas have been held on same terms as estates of ordinary zamindars. Killa Ambahata was resumed by the Maratha and so it ceased to be a Killa except in name. The Killa Patna was sold in 1897 under a civil court decree for debt. The Bhuyan of that Killa was in wretched circumstances and maintained himself with difficulty from the income of his Debottar lands. Besides, another permanently settled estate Killa Kanika which is borne in the revenue roll of Cuttack district, a part of which lies in Baleshwar (453 sq. km out of 1140 sq. km) is also governed by the law of primogeniture and was therefore impartible.

#### **Revenue Free Estates (Lakharaj Bahal lands)**

Previous to the British conquest, alienation of land for religious and charitable purposes was very common. The Pargana officials of the pre-British period freely exercised the right of gift, thus creating an enormous number of rent-free tenures. Some of these tenures were resumed at the first regular settlement of the district in 1837, but a great many more were confirmed, as it was laid down that all lands which had been held rent free during the two years 1802-1803 and 1803-1804 and continued to be so held during the currency of the settlement, were to be settled with the persons in possession on their executing agreement. During the last years of their reign, the Marathas had little leisure to devote to the details of the revenue business. The consequence was that every one from the Amil to the Makadam took advantage of the confusion to appropriate the land under his charge. Documents, if called for, were easily forged and the burden of proof that they were invalid was thrown upon the Collector. Many of these claims were known to be fraudulent and invalid but no attempt was made to sift them till 1837 when a systematic enquiry was begun. As much as 1,06,015 acres or 429.0 sq. km. of area in some 33,600 estates in the temporarily settled areas of Baleshwar were confirmed as Lakharaj Bahal (without revenue) or more shortly "bahal" as opposed to resumed or Bazyapti lands, in the course of resumption proceedings as they were found to be held on valid titles. But in provincial settlement, 1,09,036 acres or 441 sq. km. which is roughly 19 per cent of the total temporarily settled areas were recorded as revenue free estates or Lakharaj Bahal lands, the holders of which possessed permanent right



to hold them free of land revenue and were independent of the zamindars, except in so far as they were bound to pay cesses through them. In the Provincial Settlement they were situated in 3,368 out of 3,607 villages in the district and the number of recorded proprietors were about 70,000. 24 villages were entirely Bahel being held under a single general number in the Collectorate B Register. In the revision settlement, 1,09,841 acres (444.51 hectares) were so recorded in 34,627 revenue free estates, the average area of a revenue free property being only 3 acres (1.2 hectares).

The main classes of revenue free estates in Balëshwar district were Debottar, Pirottar, Brahmottar, Khairat and Mahatran. Debottar properties forming the bulk of the area of revenue free estates, being 58,340 acres (23,609 hectares) as per Maddox Settlement Report. As per Dalziel Settlement Report, the Debottar lands were 60,032 acres (27,294 hectares) out of a total of 1,09,841 acres (444.51 hectares) of revenue free properties. These fall under two main heads according as they were assigned in trust for a charitable or religious purpose or were the absolute property of the individual. The first class consisted mainly of lands bestowed on the Gods such as grants to Hindu idols, and Muhammadan shrines called as Debottar or Pirottar respectively. The managements of these religious grants to deities or Pira lay with trustees who were designated as Sebais or Marfatadars in the case of Debottar properties and Matawalis or Darogas in the case of Pirottar grants. In the eye of law these grants were of the nature of trusts. The land was the absolute property of the temple, idol or monastery. In practice, however, all these revenue-free grants were being treated as the private property of the trustees, and the religious grants were used for secular purposes and freely bought and sold, nominally in the interest of the deities. It was not uncommon to find a grant of land belonging to a Hindu idol in possession of a Muslim or land dedicated to a Pir in possession of a Hindu. In most cases the original object of the charitable grant was entirely lost sight of and the endowments were misapplied or misappropriated and though there was provision in the law for correcting such abuses, it was no one's business to take action.

The second class included lands originally assigned for the support of individuals, such as grants to Brahmanas, i.e., Brahmottar or Mahatran or "deliverance", i.e., small grants to Hindus other than Brahmanas. Such grants were the absolute property of the grantees. He could transfer the whole or any part of it by sale, mortgage or lease. He paid rent to no one and only rendered to Government taxes and cesses according to the value of his property.

### **Abwabs (Illegal cesses )**

Although the earlier Regulations and the terms of the Kabu-liyats executed by the proprietors stipulated that they should not collect unauthorised cesses from their tenants, in practice, however, besides the lawful cesses, many illegal cesses called Abwab continued to be collected. These extra collections were more prevalent in Balashwar district. It was estimated during provincial settlement that powerful zamindars were able to extort about 2 annas (Re 0·12) more per rupee in the form of extraordinary demands in addition to regular cesses which was about 4—5 annas (Re 0·25 to Re 0·31) on rupee of rent. Imposition of a new cess was attended with less difficulty than enhancement of rent. The cesses recognised by the law were (1) road cess at 2 pice per rupee or rent from raiyats, one anna per rupee from rent-free holders and at intermediate rates from tenure-holders, (2) public works cess at 2 pice per rupee and (3) zamindari dak cess at one pice per rupee. Kingsford in his provincial settlement report of Balashwar district instances the following demands which were being regularly levied by the zamindars.

- (1) Road and Public Works cess at rates varying from one to one-and-a half anna (Re 0·25 to Re 0·28) per rupee.
- (2) Bisodhani — at rates varying from six pice to one anna per holding on receipt by the tenant of a Bisodhan or full acquittance of the year's rent.
- (3) Bibahachina or Bahachina — A marriage fee paid by the father of the bride or by the parents of both the parties separately. Some Mahaprasad or betelnuts accompanied the fee varying from Re. 1 to Rs. 4.
- (4) Suniabheti — Paid on the first day of the Oriya year as an acknowledgement of the zamindar's authority mostly in shape of presents according to the profession and circumstance of the raiyat. The zamindar, however, did not get much profit on this occasion since he had to distribute clothes, to feed the villagers and to hold an expensive Puja. In some estates the fee in cash payment was made with the rent at rates varying from two annas to several rupees.
- (5) Magan — These are miscellaneous subscriptions raised for meeting various expenses of the zamindar and includes Bibaha-magan, for marriage in his family, Karma Magan for a funeral and Magan for the festivals of Durga Puja, Dol Jatra, Chandan Jatra and Rahas

Jatra or for the purposes of erecting a shrine. The rate varied from three paise to four annas per rupee of rent or from eight annas to Rs. 2 per plough.

- (6) Salami or Nazarana — This was paid when a tenant took a new land for cultivation or the zamindar first visited the village or came to it after a long interval or when the raiyat paid his first visit to the zamindar or invited the latter to his home, the tenant who returned from Calcutta with savings or domestic servant returned from Calcutta to his home on leave. The amount varied from eight annas to 50 rupees or more according to the circumstances of the tenant and the strength and capacity of the zamindar. It is not that every zamindar practised these extortions. They varied in proportion to his ability to extort them and his power of inflicting punishment for refusal. Besides being rendered subject to the touch of low caste peons, they were declared Niapaniband, i.e., debarred from fire and water which no villager might supply to them without incurring the zamindar's displeasure. They were denied the aid of the village servants and could obtain neither the Dhoba to wash clothes for them nor the Bhandari to shave them. It is not surprising that they usually ended in purchasing the comfort by submission to the demand.
- (7) Dakhal Kharaaj or mutation — This was a fee collected for entering the name of the transferee or the successor of a holding in the zamindar's records. This was being regularly levied until it was abolished by an amendment to the Orissa Tenancy Act in 1938 and it varied up to 25 per cent of the consideration money.
- (8) Tahasil Kharacha — A fee varying from half-an-anna to two annas (Re 0·03 to Re 0·12) in the rupee of rent, levied for maintenance of collection staff.
- (9) Piyadamiadi or Talwana — A fee varying from one and a half-anna to three annas (Re 0·08 to Re 0·19) per day realised from a tenant by the peon sent either to demand rent or to summon him to zamindar's Kacheri.
- (10) Jorimana — Petty cases were often enquired into and disposed of on complaint by either of the parties or by agreement between them when referred to the zamindar for decision. A fine was inflicted on the aggressor which was pocketed by the zamindar.

- (11) Patsala Kharacha — A fee to defray the cost of maintenance of a school at the residence of the zamindar, generally three paise per head.
- (12) Nacha Salami — A fee to enable the zamindar to keep a party of dancing girls at the same amount.
- (13) Rahadari — A fee for covering the cost of sending money to treasury with escort.
- (14) Thani Kharacha — A fee realised from the Thani raiyat to retain the services of the Gumasta or Amin for the purpose of remeasuring the holding or laying down the boundary of fields, it amounted to 2-3 annas (Re. 0.12 to Re. 0.19) per holding.

### **Khas mahal**

Khasmahals are those estates which were managed directly by Government without intervention of any intermediaries. They arose out of either recusancy or out of failure of bidders at revenue auction sale for non-payment of revenue at Kist dates in which case Government took over the estate for a nominal sum of rupee one only. In 1845 the number of Khasmahals was 8 and in 1855 the number had risen to 12 with a gross rental of Rs. 16,170 of which Rs. 15,076 was contributed by Nuananda alone and the remaining by petty estates. In Maddox settlement period there were 19 Khasmahals with settled rental of Rs. 39,675 with a total area of 21,797 acres (8,821 hectares). By Dalziel settlement period there were 11 Khasmahals, the largest being Nuananda bearing Tauzi No. 1316. It had a total area of 17,975 acres (7,274 hectares) in 104 villages and were purchased by Government for Re. 1 at a sale for arrears of revenue in 1818. This estate contained the important market at Mirzapur. The Chandbali Khasmahal covering a non-agricultural area at the port site had only 135 holdings under Patadari status with an assessed area of 72 acres (29 hectares). The Bichitrapur Khasmahal (on the river Subarnarekha) was a permanent lease taken by Government from the proprietor of Berapal estate for the purpose of salt manufacture for which it was never actually used. Government paid the rent of Rs. 799/- from 1,809 onwards but derived no income from the estate till 1872 when it was sublet to one Babu Kailash Ch. Ray Mahasaya as an Ijardar.

### **Sub-proprietors and tenure-holders**

It is doubtful whether under the Mughal and Maratha rule the zamindars of the plains had any right to create permanent intermediate tenures between themselves and their raiyats. None-

of them appears to have been created by the zamindars with the exception perhaps some Sarbarakars and Sikimi zamindars. The other tenures have grown concurrently with the growth of zamindar's interest inspite of the opposition of the zamindars during the British period. The village headman was transformed into Makadam, the purchasers of the waste land grew into Kharidadars, the zamindar's subordinate rent-collector ripened into Sarbarakar just as the master, having originally been rent collector of a higher grade, crystalized into a permanent zamindar. During the Mughal period the idea of centralization found favour with the ruling kings. The tables were turned during the Maratha rule when the latter favoured the village headman at the expense of the zamindars. In the earlier days of the British conquest even-handed justice was done to both the classes to save themselves from the zamindars. Many Makadams and Sarbarakars applied to be admitted into direct engagements with the Government and their prayers were allowed. This accounted for the large number of petty estates not only in Baleshwar but also in two other districts — Cuttack and Puri. Elaborate enquiries were made in 1837—45 settlement and the rights of the tenure-holders were settled once and for all.

Fortunately for the district the chain of middlemen between Government and the cultivators was not very long. In most of the estates only zamindars intervened between Government and the raiyats and even where there were tenure-holders they were comparatively few. In Baleshwar there were mainly three classes of proprietary tenure-holders, viz., Makadams, Sarbarakars and Kharidadars who were admitted to engagements. In Maddox settlement their total number was 882 covering an area of 95,556 acres (38,670 hectares). The break-up of each tenures was as follows :—

Makadams	...	112	with 32,574 acres (13,182 hectares.)
Sarbarakars	...	731	with 61,267 acres (24,795 hectares.)
Kharidadars including Sikimi Kharida, Kharida Jamabandi.		39	with 1,715 acres (694 hectares.)
<b>Total</b>		<b>882</b>	<b>with 95,556 acres (38,670 hectares.)</b>

All these tenure-holders except the Sikimi-kharida and Kharida Jamabandis (their number was very few) were treated as sub-proprietors in Maddox settlement.

(In Dalziel settlement there were 1046 sub-proprietary tenures of which 157 were Makadams, 802 Sarbarakars, 85 were Kharidadars and 2 Sikimi zamindars). They executed Kabuliyats for payment of revenue assessed at the same time as the zamindars and no attempt was made to curtail their existing rights and privileges, except in so far as they were set forth in the Kabuliyats. They were also placed in the same position as zamindars as regards their relation with their tenants. But differences were maintained from tenure to tenure as regards their relations with their landlords and their own circumstances. The Makadams were considered to have a quasi-proprietary right and were generally allowed five per cent as Malikana besides 15 to 20 per cent for collection expenses while the Sarbarakars got only the latter amount as "kharacha". In the event of a Sarbarakar or a Makadam refusing to hold his village at the Jama assessed at a settlement he would be dispossessed and his village taken Khas. On purchase by the superior landlord a Makadami-tenure did not lapse but remained separate and distinct whereas a Sarbarakari-tenure reverted to the zamindar in case of default in payment of the Jama. Kharidadars enjoyed the rights of the persons from whom they purchased. Each tenure was again sub-divided into several classes with varying incidents of rights and liabilities. Makadams were of three classes—(1) Maurasi or hereditary, (2) Kharidadars, i.e., those who purchased the right from another Makadam, and (3) Zati, i.e., appointed by the people of the village as their representative or sometimes created by zamindar. Similarly Sarbarakars were of two classes (1) Maurasi, i.e., held uninterruptedly from a period antecedent to British accession (14-10-1803), and (2) Miadi, i.e., held at the time of settlement. Kharidadars were similarly divided into two classes (1) first class, i.e., those who had derived their title from the zamindars and second class, i.e., those who had derived their title from Makadams or other tenure-holders. These differences were substantially obliterated in course of time owing to tendency towards uniformity in the position of various classes of sub-proprietors or tenure-holders. The tenures were generally held to be hereditary and divisible, but no division of rent could be made without the consent of the proprietor.

There were certain classes of tenure-holders whose position approximated to that of a proprietor of an estate until the passing of the Orissa Tenancy Act in 1913. Those "sub-proprietors", as they were called, had suffered from degradation owing to their not being recognised by any statutory law. They were in danger of becoming merged in the common body of tenure-holders. The Orissa Tenancy Act restored them to their proper position. They held their lands on temporary engagements to pay land revenue through a proprietor or in a few cases through another sub-proprietor. The tenure-holders of such proprietary class were described in settlement papers with

their special designation of Makadam, Padhan, Sarbarakar, Kharidadar, Sikimi zamindar, etc. All these classes were placed in the same footing by being given permanent status and were allowed to hold privileged (Nij-jot) lands over which occupancy right could not accrue. All of them except the Sarbarakars got statutory powers to transfer their tenures without the consent of the landlords subject to payment of a mutation fee. Other tenure-holders had no special privilege such as freedom of transfer. They arose out of the definition of tenure-holder in the Tenancy Act which reads as follows :

"A tenure-holder means primarily a person who has acquitted from a proprietor or from another tenure-holder a right to hold his land for the purpose of collecting rent or bringing it under cultivation by establishing tenants on it". Further when the area held by a tenant exceeded thirty-three acres, the tenant was presumed to be a tenure-holder until the contrary was shown. Such temporary tenure-holders, where found, were recorded as Ijradar (lease-holder) or Miadi-madhya-satwadhikari. Such cases were, however, extremely rare.

### **Bajyaptidars**

These tenures formed the surviving land-mark of the attempt made by the middle classes to create revenue from lands for themselves in the name of the ruling power. When the British took over the province all persons claiming to hold Lakharaj or revenue free were invited to register their claims in the office of the Collector for investigation of their titles under section 18 of the Regulation XII of 1805. It was not until the settlement of 1837—45 that systematic proceedings were undertaken. Frauds on an extensive scale were attempted. In Orissa claims over 3 lakh acres were disallowed and those lands were resumed. But they were very liberally dealt with and most of them assessed at half rates. Such tenures were called Adhajama or Nisfi-bazyapti and the holders—Bajyaptidars. Such concessions were granted with a view to avoiding wide-spread discontent and hardship. Others were allowed to hold at nominally full rates (but not at full rates). They were called Purajama or Kamil Bajyaptidars and the holders commonly described as Kamildars. The Bajyaptidars were for the most part Brahmans and took pride in calling themselves Lakharajdars. Those whose claim to hold revenue free was disallowed were recorded as Bajyaptidar tenure-holders and those whose claim to hold rent free was disallowed were recorded as Bajyaptidar raiyats. In Maddox settlement the total number of Bajyapati holdings resumed was 42, 200 in Baleshwar covering an area of 1,13,400 acres (45,591 hectares) and they were assessed at Rs. 51,700. Of this Kamil-bajyapati tenancy was 14, 100, covering an area of 38,200 acres (15,459 hectares) and the rents assessed amounted to Rs. 28,400. The number of Nisfi-bajyapati holdings was 28,100, covering an area of 75,200 acres

(30,432 hectares) with a rental of Rs. 23,300. In revision (or Dalziel) settlement the area of Bajaypti holdings in temporarily settled estates decreased to 1,08,224 acres (43,796 hectares) as encroachers on Bazyapti holdings perfecting their title by adverse possession were not recorded as Bajyaptidars but as Stithiban raiyats), but the number of holdings increased to 1,73,114 due to unrestricted partition and transfer.

### Other Tenants

The principal tenantry who held beneath the proprietors or proprietary tenure-holders may be divided roughly into five classes, i.e., (1) Thani raiyats or resident cultivators whose rents were fixed for the term of the settlement, (2) Pahi raiyats or non-resident cultivators who were practically tenants-at-will, (3) Chandanadars who held only homesteads and whose rent was also fixed for the term of the settlement, (4) holders of service or other Jagirs who held their land rent-free either in consideration of service rendered or as rewards for service in the past, and (5) under-raiyats of tenants (1) to (4). Of these, the most numerous and important were the Thani and Pahi raiyats.

### Raiyats

The actual cultivators of the soil at the time of the British conquest were found to be divided into two classes, viz, Thani or resident and Pahi or non-resident raiyats. The term Thani is a corruption of Sthani or Sthaniya, i.e. local. The Thani raiyat had a hereditary right of occupancy in his lands, while the Pahi raiyat was a mere tenant-at-will. The advantages enjoyed by the former were briefly as follows:

He held his homestead and garden land rent-free, his lands were the best in the village, and he had the preference in the reclamation of new lands. He had communal rights to pasture, fire-wood and thatching grass. He could not be ousted so long as he paid his rent. The possession of these advantages increased his importance in the eyes of his neighbours and strengthened his credit with the money-lender. On the other hand, his rent was much higher than that paid by the non-resident raiyat; and he groaned under the extra contributions and impositions exacted from him by his landlord. These demands were often so excessive as to swallow up all the profits of cultivation, and the Thani raiyat, reduced to despair, was often compelled to abandon his home. The Pahi raiyat paid a much lower rate of rent, but on the other hand, he was liable to be turned out of his holding at any moment.

While giving proprietary status to the zamindars the then ruling power, i.e., the East India Company, had hoped that the zamindars would continue themselves with good faith and moderation towards their raiyats, and provided this in the earlier Regulations which was



also reiterated in the Kabuliyats executed by them. The Governor-General-in-Council had power to enact such Regulations as he might think necessary for the protection and welfare of the raiyats and cultivators of the soil. This formed the basis for subsequent attempts at land reform legislations during the British period. In the beginning this did not present much difficulty as there were more lands than the raiyats could cultivate and it would not pay a proprietor to drive the raiyat to despair. The competition in those days was not for the land but for persons to cultivate it. But the situation changed rapidly as population and pressure on land increased. The hopes of continuance of good relationship between the proprietor and the raiyat expressed in the earlier Regulations did not materialise. This led to agrarian discontentment as there was no law to prevent rack-renting and eviction of the tenants. In 1837-45 settlement, only Thani raiyats were recorded and no record was made for Pahi and under-raiyats. The Rent Act X of 1859 laid down for the first time the law governing some relationship between the landlord and his tenants and contained for the first time some description of rights of occupancy. A raiyat was defined as primarily a person who had acquired a right to hold land for the purpose of cultivating it himself or by a member of his family or by hired servants or with the aid of partners. It introduced the principle that by possession of the same land for twelve years one would automatically acquire a right of occupancy. Further improvement on this Act was effected by the Bengal Tenancy Act, 1885 which extended this principle much further by providing that any person who had continuously held land as a raiyat in any village for twelve years became a settled raiyat of that village and that every settled raiyat shall have a right of occupancy in all lands held by him as a raiyat in that village. This part of the Bengal Tenancy Act was extended to Orissa in 1891 by which time Maddox Settlement had started. The old distinction between Thani and Pahi raiyats thus became obsolete. Therefore such terms were not used in subsequent settlements. But as old habits die hard, the benevolent intention of the law and the boon offered by it were not known in many parts of the mufassil. So the ancient custom that the Pahi raiyats had no occupancy right prevailed in many parts of the district. Even at the commencement of Maddox settlement the word Pahi continued among the raiyats as a term of reproach indicative of absence of rights. When on conclusion of the Maddox settlement proceeding copies of Khatian (called Pattas) were distributed to the Thani and Pahi raiyats showing their occupancy right, then only the great mass of Pahi raiyats could believe that they had definite rights and were not merely tenants-at-will. In this settlement Thani rents remained almost unchanged while the Pahi rents rose almost to the level of Thani rents, as the competition in the land became keener.

Bulk of the substantive law of landlord and tenant applicable to Bengal under the Bengal Tenancy Act 1885 had been extended to Orissa before the James Revision Settlement. Thus the Orissa raiyats obtained the benefits of the new principle regarding accrual of occupancy rights. Occupancy raiyats were protected from ejectment for arrears of rent and from enhancement of rent beyond certain limits, they were given the right to apply for commutation of produce rents, the rights of non-occupancy raiyats were also placed on a definite footing and the power of landlord to oust them and to enhance their rents was limited. Granting of proper rent receipt free of cost was made compulsory and all tenants were given the right to pay rent into court. But the Revision Settlement brought into focus a large number of defects and omissions such as right to make improvements, surrender and abandonment of holdings and contract and custom, etc., and the need for a self-contained agrarian code for Orissa which resulted in the passing of the Orissa Tenancy Act in 1913. Under this Act there were only three classes of raiyats, i.e., (1) settled raiyats (Sthitiban), (2) occupancy raiyats (Dakhal Satwa Bisistha), (3) non-occupancy raiyats (Dakhal Satwa Sunya). Besides there were another class of raiyats called raiyats holding at fixed rates who held lands at a rent or rate of rent fixed in perpetuity and whose incidence of rights regarding transfer and succession were similar to those of a permanent tenure. But their number was small. All settled raiyats under the law have occupancy right in their holdings but not *vice-versa*. Various incidence of occupancy rights were gradually extended by evolution, the main component of this right being that an occupancy raiyat could not be evicted except in accordance with the law nor could he be rack-rented. He could be evicted only if he used the land comprised in his holding in a manner which rendered it unfit for agriculture. Though heritability was an important incidence of occupancy right from the very beginning the right of free transfer was not so recognised until recently by an amendment of section 31 of the Orissa Tenancy Act in the year 1938. Prior to this name of the successor-interest in the landlord's papers could be mutated only on payment of a mutation fee, the amount of which varied from estate to estate and was generally 25 per cent of the consideration money. Similarly rights in trees in raiyat's holdings had not been codified. This is a matter which the Tenancy Act left to custom. The usual (but not universal) custom was that the landlord and tenant each had some share in the fruit and/or timber. Besides, if a third person had a share in the fruit and timber detailed entries were made in the record of rights in settlement specifying the exact shares in fruit and timber. Although the practice varied from estate to estate in general the occupancy raiyat had the right to take the fruit of trees, but not to cut the timber or even to appropriate it when the

tree was dead or dry, except when it was required for communal purposes such as cremation. But bamboos could be planted and appropriated by the tenants without permission or fee even though it came within the definition of timber according to a ruling of the Patna High Court. But according to an amendment of the Orissa Tenancy Act, 1938, in section 27-A an occupancy raiyat got the right to plant, enjoy the flowers, fruits and other products, to fell and to utilise or dispose of the timber of any tree standing on his holding without permission or interference from his landlord except where an entry to the contrary had been made in the record-of-rights published before 1938. The raiyats not having the right of occupancy in their holdings were defined as non-occupancy raiyats. Such a raiyat was liable to pay such rent as might be agreed upon between himself and his landlord at the time of his admission as a tenant. The rent could also be enhanced by registered agreement. An ejectment suit could be brought by the landlord for failure of the raiyat to agree to an enhancement of rent. The raiyat could either face the ejectment or agree to the enhancement. He could also be ejected for failure to pay arrears of rent, and for the reason that the term of the lease (if such a lease had been registered) has expired. Harsh as they might appear, these provisions did not affect many people because less than one per cent of the land was held by non-occupancy raiyats as per Dalziel Settlement Report, and persons who held continuously the same land as a non-occupancy raiyat for twelve years later automatically became a settled/occupancy raiyat. The number of holdings and area held by settled/occupancy raiyats and non-occupancy raiyats as per Dalziel Settlement Records in Baleshwar district were as follows:

	No. of holdings	Area in Acre
Settled/occupancy raiyats	5,79,000	7,93,800 (3,21,240 hectares)
Non-occupancy raiyats	3,456	6,429 (2602 hectares)

This included the settled/occupancy holdings under proprietors, sub-proprietors and tenure-holdings in permanently-settled, temporary settled and revenue-free estates. It also included the raiyats of Nij-jot (private) lands of the proprietors and sub-proprietors who had acquired raiyati right and who were recorded as Nij-jot Babat-Sthitiban. They also included 41,714 Bazyaptidars with 36,776 acres (14,883 hectares) who for all practical purposes were regarded as occupancy raiyats, but were recorded as Bazyaptidar raiyats. This covered cash-rented, produce-rented and also rent-free holdings. There were 16,438 produce rented holdings with 11,295 acres (4571

hectares) who were recorded as 'Dhulibag' which meant that the produce was to be divided 50:50 between the raiyat and his landlord. But he had all other incidence of occupancy right like cash rented holdings and had also the right to apply for commutation of rent. But as the raiyats in the rural areas were ignorant of their rights under the law, they had a lower social status than cash-rented raiyats as if they were tenants-at-will or Shikim-raiyats even till the abolition of the estates in early fifties.

### **Chandanadars**

In the case of the cultivating classes, their homesteads generally formed part of their agricultural holdings, but the shopkeepers, artisans, and the labouring classes, who had not arable land in the village, but only homesteads were called Chandanadars. The term originally implied inferiority in status as on this class fell the obligation of supplying forced labour. But this obligation having fallen into disuse, the word "Chandana" came to be used for all homestead land paying rent separately from the arable lands. At the provincial settlement, Chandanadars were given leases securing to them fixity of rent for the term of the settlement. Under the Orissa Tenancy Act their status was recognised and defined, and they were protected from eviction except in execution of a decree for arrears of rent. Save for these express provisions the incidents of the tenancy continued to be regulated by local custom and usage. The term Chandanadar is strictly applicable only to the Chandanadars in the temporarily-settled estates. Homestead tenancies which exist in the permanently-settled and revenue-free estates (recorded under Ghar-bari status) are governed entirely by contract and custom. But by an amendment of Orissa Tenancy Act (Orissa Act X of 1946), the Chandanadar's right in respect of his homestead has been made synonymous with the right of an occupancy raiyat both in the permanently settled and temporarily settled areas. There were 8507 Chandana holdings with an area of 1786 acres (723 hectares) as per Dalziel Settlement Records.

### **Jagirdars**

A Jagirdar is one who holds land rent-free or on low rent in return for services rendered. There were two classes of Jagirdars, i.e., (1) those who rendered services to the landlord and were liable to ejection on failure to perform such service, and (2) those who performed services to the village community. Such Jagirs were called Desheta or Chakran Jagirs. The system of giving Jagir land to village servants such as barber, washerman, carpenter, potter, astrologer, etc., had prevailed in Orissa from ancient time. In a small or newly established village where

the number of inhabitants was too small to offer sufficient remuneration to the barber or the blacksmith, these were induced by grants of small areas of land rent-free to take up their residence and thus complete the formation of the village community. It was never intended that these Jagirdars should supply the needs of the villages without payment. The general custom was therefore that these village servants would also receive some small payments of paddy or cash annually from the raiyats. On special occasions they received doles of rice, cloth or money for performing duties connected with religious or social observance of the people. The lands given rent-free to the servants of the landlord were, however, valued for the purpose of revenue assessment. In Dalziel Settlement, 1615 acres (635.59 hectares) were recorded as personal Jagirs and 2399 acres (971 hectares) as Desheta Jagirs in the temporarily settled areas. In the permanently settled estates of north Baleshwar 602 and 18 acres (243 and 7 hectares) were recorded as personal and Desheta Jagirs respectively.

### **Under-raiyats**

Tenants holding whether immediately or mediately under raiyats (occupancy, non-occupancy and Bazyaptidar raiyats) are classed as under-raiyats. These are commonly called Shikimi raiyats. Besides, persons cultivating protected or Nij-jot lands of proprietors or sub-proprietors to whom occupancy right could not accrue under the law were also treated as under-raiyats. In Dalziel Settlement there were 24,316 under-raiyats with an area of 12,857 acres (5203 hectares). Of these there were 19,490 cash-rented holdings with an extent of 8470 acres (3428 hectares).

Although the Orissa Tenancy Act included under-raiyats as a class of tenants, it did not define their rights vis-a-vis their landlords and left them to be governed by contract or custom. Thus the custom or usage under which an under-raiyat could, under certain circumstances, acquire a right of occupancy was saved by section 237 of the Orissa Tenancy Act. They were given occupancy right over their homestead only by an amendment of the Orissa Tenancy Act under section 236 in the year 1946. Not until the passing of the Orissa Tenancy Protection 1948, they could be statutorily protected against arbitrary eviction and rack-renting. Under-raiyats paying produce-rent whether recorded or not were commonly called Bhag-chasis, and most of them were not recorded. This Act protected the Bhag-chasis from arbitrary eviction by their landlords and limited the quantum of their rent to 1/3rd of the gross produce if they had occupancy right and to 2/5th if they had no occupancy right. This was substituted by the Orissa Tenants

Relief Act, 1955 which made more stringent provision against their arbitrary eviction and further reduced the quantum of Bhag to 1/4th of the gross produce subject to over-all limit of four, six and eight standard maunds of paddy or value thereof respectively for dry, wet and cash crop lands. Many religious and charitable institutions depending on produce rent, were hard hit by this law. This brought about a complete change in the agrarian life of the villages with great repercussions on their social life. The marketability of lands under cultivation of temporary tenants was affected very much. The effect of the subsequent legislation on rights of under-raiyats or Bhag Chasis brought about by the Orissa Land Reforms Act, 1965 will be discussed separately.

### **Lands of other statuses**

In Dalziel Settlement, 10,762 acres (4,353 hectares) were recorded under Kharida Jamabandi tenures, 62,102 acres (25,132 hectares) under Bajyapti tenures, and 33,299 acres (13,475 hectares) under other tenures. 26,926 acres (10,596 hectares) were recorded as Nij-jot lands of proprietors/sub-proprietors which were in their Khas possession and being their private lands, raiyati right could not accrue. 84,556 acres (34,219 hectares) were recorded as Nij-chas (lands in possession of proprietors/sub-proprietors which were not private lands), 55,665 acres (22,527 hectares) were recorded as Rakshit (reserved for communal purposes) and 12,437 acres (5,033 hectares) as Sarbasadharan. 1,85,171 acres (74,936 hectares) were recorded as Abad Jogya Anabadi (culturable waste) including 1,37,871 acres (55,795 hectares) of old fallow and 28,989 acres (11,731 hectares) of jungle. Besides, 25,141 acres (10,174 hectares) were recorded as current fallow, 3,94,171 acres (1,59,516 hectares) were recorded as Abad Ajogya Anabadi not available for cultivation.

### **Land tenure in Nilagiri ex-state**

The system of tenures prevalent in Nilagiri ex-state before merger is given in the Final Report on the Nilagiri Settlement, 1917-22. Raiyats were divided into five classes, viz.,

(1) Thani (resident cultivators of a village)—28,539.7 acres or 11,711.53 hectares.

(2) Pahi (non-resident cultivators)—13,502.01 acres or 5,464.26 hectares.

(3) Chandana (resident non-cultivators occupying homestead lands only)—138.70 acres or 56.13 hectares.

(4) Bajyapti (resumed Lakharaj lands assessed on full-rent) — 4530·47 acres or 1833·42 hectares.

(5) Kotha Chas (Khas lands sublet to tenants on payment of Sanja paddy)— 357·08 acres or 144·5 hectares.

There was no law or record showing the rights enjoyed by the raiyats. But during the last settlement some rights and liabilities could be ascertained with due regard to establish usage in the state. The Thani raiyats got one Guntha (1/20 acres) of homestead land free of rent on every Man (0·62 acre) of wet land. No class of tenants had any right to transfer the lands without permission of the state. However, numerous cases of illegal transfers were detected during the last settlement. Mutation fee varying from 1 anna to one rupee was charged for recording transfers, inheritance, sale or gift. Delays or defaults in intimating inheritance, sale, etc., were penalised by charging double the prescribed rates. No raiyat whether Thani or Pahi had a right of occupancy over his holding, but he was not to be evicted except on satisfactory evidence of disloyalty to the state or on failure to pay arrears of rent. The raiyat was also liable to be evicted if he failed to bring under cultivation any waste land for which lease had been taken by him. Rent assessed was not liable to be enhanced or commuted during the term of the settlement. The raiyati holding was heritable but could not be divided among the heirs without the knowledge of the state authority. No raiyat could cut or utilise any tree standing on his land but was entitled to fruits of the trees. No unauthorised cess or Magana could be levied on any pretext. For default in payment of rent on due dates, the raiyat was liable to pay Kistikhilapi and his lands were liable to be sold for the arrear dues. As per last settlement there were 24,649 raiyati holdings with an area of 47,088·98 acres (19,056·32 hectares), average area per holding being 1·91 acres or 0·77 hectares in the state.

Besides the raiyati lands there were Jagir lands. As per last settlement records there were 36 different classes of Jagirs covering a total area of 2,370·76 acres (959·44 hectares). A Jagirdar had no transferable right. Possession over the land continued so long as the specified duties were faithfully performed. Fruits standing on Jagir holdings were enjoyed by the Jagirdars but they had no right over the trees. Among the Jagirdars were the village Choukidars locally called Chatias. They depended more on the charity of the villagers than upon any aid from the state. They received a few sheaves of paddy from every cultivator at the harvest time and every resident supplied them one bowl of cooked rice every month. There were 143 Choukidars who held 368 acres (148·93 hectares) of Jagir lands. There were another set of Jagirdars called

Bethias. They were of low-castes. They carried luggages, etc., of the ruling chief and the officers on tour. They also helped ruling chief in Shikars.

There were as usual Lakharaj tenures. These were grants made by the former rulers for different objects, and they fell under the following categories:

- |                              |                    |                 |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| (1) Debottar,                | (2) Baishnobottar, | (3) Brahmottar, |
| (4) Khairat,                 | (5) Khorakposhak,  | (6) Mahatran,   |
| (7) Jati Bruti,              | (8) Anugrahi,      | (9) Sirakata,   |
| (10) Dahijya and (11) Dutta. |                    |                 |

Of these, Debottar and Baishnobottar were religious endowments. Entire villages or detached holdings were granted for the Sevapuja and up-keep of the temples. The ruling chief exercised his control over their management and reserved the right to dismiss the Marfatdar if the conditions of the endowments were not fulfilled. The successor-in-interest required the approval of the ruling chief. The Thakur-mahal was the largest endowment in the state consisting of 152 villages. The senior Rani was recognised as the Marfatdar. But the management was subject to the control of the state. The Debottar money was kept as a separate fund and not merged in the state revenue. The Brahmans got Brahmottar lands for religious and intellectual pursuits. They were required to present cocoanuts and sacred thread to the ruling chief on Gahma Purnima festival and offer benediction thrice daily. Other grants granted to relations or favourites for maintenance were of less importance. Like ordinary raiyats they were required to take permission of the state to transfer their holdings. They had no right over the trees standing within their holdings. The Lakharaj Control Order 1932 was issued "to ensure loyalty of the holders of Lakharaj tenures to take an indirect measure for gradual resumption of rent free lands and to ensure proper application of the income of the Debottar grants to the purpose for which they were originally made". Resettlement meant ejectment of the grantee and resettlement on Salami and rent.

It will thus be seen that the tenants in the ex-state were subjected to numerous restraints unlike their counterparts in the adjoining British territory where there were codified laws defining occupancy right. This undoubtedly led to some agitation among the tenants not only in Nilagiri but in all Garhjats. The situation did not very much improve until the merger of the state with Orissa with effect from November 1947. Under the administration of Orissa States Order 1948, various rights were conferred on the



occupancy tenant which brought him on par with his counterpart in the Mugulbandi area. He was given the right "(1) to freely transfer his holding subject to the restriction that no transfer of a holding from a member of an aboriginal tribe to a member of a non-aboriginal tribe shall be valid unless such transfer is made with previous permission of the Subdivisional Magistrate concerned, (2) to have full right over all kinds of trees standing on his holding, (3) to use the land comprised in the holding in any manner which does not materially impair the value of the land or render it unfit for the purpose of the tenancy; (4) to presume that the rent for the time being payable by him is fair and equitable until the contrary is proved".

Besides, a "Sukabasi" would be entitled to the rights of the occupancy tenant over his homestead notwithstanding any law or custom to the contrary.

By an amendment of the Orissa State Order issued in July 1948 persons holding land on service tenure either under the ruler or any member of his family were discharged from the liability to render such service, were protected from eviction and would on payment of rent to be assessed by Government acquire occupancy right on the land. It also provided that persons holding Khamar, Nij-jot or any other private land of the ruler would not be liable to eviction and on payment of rent fixed by the competent authority would acquire occupancy right on the land. These provisions were subsequently enacted as clauses (g) and (h) of the Orissa Merged State (Laws) Act IV of 1950.

The cultivated area in Nilagiri subdivision as recorded in the last settlement was 60,851.93 acres (24,626 hectares) of which 52,461.38 acres (21,230 hectares) were paddy lands, 749.08 acres (303.15 hectares) were Pala lands, 3101.97 acres (1386.58 hectares) were Taila (Bajefasal) lands, and 4285.3 acres (1734.26 hectares) were Kala (homestead) lands, 254.20 acres (102.87 hectares) were orchard, 26,958.23 acres (10,910 hectares) were recorded as uncultivated (Anabadi) lands of which 3244 acres (1312.84 hectares) were culturable waste (Abad Jogya Anabadi), and 4413 acres (1785.90 hectares) were unculturable waste (Abad Ajogya Anabadi). Out of a total area of 284 sq.miles (735.56 sq. km.) of the ex-state 137 sq. miles (354.83 sq. km.) were surveyed in 312 villages and the rest 147 sq. miles (380.73 sq. km.) comprised forest, hills and scrub jungles which were not surveyed.

#### **Revenue and Rent settlement in the past**

In October 1803, the British occupied Orissa and in 1804 made the first settlement under the instructions of the Commissioners subsequently embodied in Regulation XII of 1805. S. L. Maddox

has given the comparative figures of annual revenue for 312 estates that existed under the Maratha and the early British period in Baleshwar district as follows;

Maratha revenue	.. Rs. 1,50,285
Revenue in 1803-05	.. Rs. 1,54,381
Revenue in 1805-06 to 1808-09	.. Rs. 1,62,218
Revenue in 1809-10 to 1811-12	.. Rs. 1,79,450
Revenue in 1812-13 to 1814-15	.. Rs. 1,80,072

Immediately prior to 1837-45 settlement the revenue was Rs. 3,41,332. In this settlement the revenue was settled at Rs. 3,83,498. The net increase was mostly due to assessment on resumed Lakhraj holdings. As had been stated previously this revenue remained unaltered till it was revised in Maddox settlement. The total revenue of the temporarily settled estates as assessed at Maddox settlement in 1899 was Rs. 5,98,737 representing 53.3 percent of the gross assets mostly due to extension of cultivation during the last 60 years. But in (Dalziel) Revision Settlement (1922-32) the revenue of these estates (the number was 2304) was Rs. 8,20,404 representing 53.1 per cent of the gross assets (Rs. 12,54,454). To this may be added the total revenue of Rs. 34,835 which was permanently fixed in respect of 150 permanently settled estates in the north of the district. The incidence of revenue per acre of assessed lands in Dalziel settlement was Rs. 1.10 as compared with Re. 0.87 at Maddox settlement. Calculated on total area, the incidence was Re. 0.87 in Dalziel settlement as compared with Re. 0.63 in Maddox settlement.

In the provincial settlement the assessed area in temporarily settled estates was 6,78,393 acres (2,74,537 hectares) of which the settled/occupancy tenants held 4,35,200 (1,76,120 hectares). The then existing rental of 7,23,500 of these tenancies was raised by Rs. 60,800 to Rs. 7,84,300 giving an average incidence of Rs. 1.77 per acre (Rs. 4.37 per hectare). In Dalziel revision settlement the assessed areas in these estates was 7,39,804 acres (2,99,389 hectares) of which the settled/occupancy raiyats held 5,42,575 acres (2,19,573 hectares). The normal enhancement of four annas in the rupee was applied and the average incidence of rent rose to Rs. 2.22 per acre (Rs. 5.48 per hectare) in Dalziel settlement. But in the permanently settled estates the average incidence of rent on occupancy tenants (68,940 or 27,899 hectares) was Rs. 2.00 per acre (Rs. 4.94 per hectare) while in the revenue-free estates (34,627 estates) with 59,982 acres or 24,275 hectares it was

Rs. 1.83 per acre (Rs. 4.52 per hectare). There were varying rates of rent for different classes of tenancies from Rs. 5.22 per acre (Rs. 12.90 per hectare) in case of Chandanadars to Rs. 1.26 per acre (Rs. 3.11 per hectare) in case of Bazyaptidars.

In the beginning there was no law governing principles of rent settlement in Orissa. Rent settlement was done under executive orders of Government. In Maddox settlement, rent settlement was done under section 104 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, 1885. The same provision of law was followed in James settlement. In Dalziel settlement, this was done under section 119 of the Orissa Tenancy Act, 1913. In the first instance the quantum of rent payable by a raiyat was fixed by agreement between the landlord and the tenant at the time of induction of the tenant for cultivation which was determined on the principle of supply and demand. Periodical enhancement in rent was made mainly owing to rise in prices of paddy or in acreage of the holding, both under the Bengal Tenancy Act and also under the Orissa Tenancy Act. The existing rent was presumed to be fair and equitable until the contrary was proved. The rent of a holding was not correlated to the classification/productivity of the land but to its extent. Even during Dalziel settlement the principle approved by Government in 1924 regarding rents of ordinary raiyats was "it will ordinarily be sufficient to impose an enhancement of 25 per cent on the rents fixed at the last revenue settlement (Maddox settlement) and of  $12\frac{1}{2}$  per cent on those fixed in the revision operations (James settlement). These enhancements, of course, will be independent of any alteration of area under section 60 of the Orissa Tenancy Act. They will also be liable to modification in the areas subject to injurious inundation". The fallacy of the procedure was obvious. When a tenancy was created the landlord (proprietor, sub-proprietor or tenure-holder) fixed the initial rent on the basis of several personal and irrelevant factors like amount of Salami paid, social and economic status, personal relationship, etc. It was not, therefore, surprising that lands having more or less the same productivity with the same advantage or disadvantage and situated in the same village were paying different rates of rent to the same landlord. The Orissa Tenancy Act, 1913, no doubt, had prescribed certain procedures for rent settlement. Even then the emphasis was on existing rent and agreement between the parties to be the basis for rent settlement rather than on a rate of rent for each classification of land. No doubt the Act provided for a table of rate to be prepared and applied for fixation of fair and equitable rent of a holding, but that was never applied in practice. This anomaly was not removed until passing of the Orissa Survey and Settlement Act, 1958 which for the first time fixed definite principles regarding settlement of fair and equitable rent on the basis of productivity of land and other relevant

factors like situation of a village, communication and marketing facilities, liable to vicissitudes of seasons, etc. The on-going settlement operations in Baleshwar is being carried on since the year 1962 under provisions of this Act, and this will be discussed separately in this chapter.

So far Nilagiri is concerned, the first settlement was made between 1849 and 1853. The officer deputed to do the settlement was an officer of the Bengal Government. In the absence of previous records this officer was unable to find out on what principle or at what rates the tenants were paying rents. But he himself seemed to have applied certain Bengal rates which apparently the cultivators accepted. No record is available to show the principles followed in applying these rates. The next settlement was commenced in 1886-87 and was completed in 1897 after a lapse of about 10 years. In this settlement 93 different rates were adopted but there is no record regarding the principles and the reasons for the various rates. The settlement officer was guided by certain rules framed by the Manager of the ex-state and approved by the raja, but the rules did not appear to have the sanction of Bengal Government. The rates varied from Re.0-10-0 to Rs. 8-0-0 for Kala (homestead) land, Re. 0-3-0 to Rs. 3-12-0 for Jala (rice) land, Re. 0-8-0 to Rs. 4-0-0 for Pala (river-side) land and Re.0-6-8 to Re. 0-13-4 for Dahi (Bajefasal) land. The next settlement was commenced in 1917 when the previous settlement expired after a period of 20 years. Certain rules were approved by the Political Agent regarding the principles of which the settlement was to be conducted. Villages as well as lands were classed according to the nature situation, advantages, disadvantages, etc. The rates proposed were based on the productivity of the different classes of land situated in each group of villages and the price of the produce. The rates varied from Rs. 1-10-0 to Rs. 8-0-0 in case of Kala (homestead) land, Rs. 6-11-0 to Rs. 3-5-0 in case of Jala (rice) land, Rs. 1-4-0 to Rs.5-0-0 in case of Pala (river-side) lands and Re.0-6-0 to Re.0-13-0 in case of Dahi (Bajefasal) lands. Special concessional rates were fixed for aborigines. The application of the above rates gave an increase of about 30 per cent on the total rental which was mostly due to rationalisation of rent on scientific principles and extension of cultivation since the last settlement. The settlement was for 15 years which expired in 1936 as the settlement was given effect to in 1921. No new settlement was taken up owing to economic circumstances and the old settlement was extended. The present survey and settlement operation started in Nilagiri subdivision in the year 1963 under the provisions of the Orissa Survey and Settlement Act 1958 and the fixation of rent was done on sound principles prescribed in the Act.

### Extension of Cultivation

In the temporarily settled areas of Baleshwar the assessed areas in Maddox settlement was 6,92,200 acres (2,80,125 hectares) out of a cultivated area of 7,76,000 acres (3,14,837 hectares). But in Dalziel settlement this rose to 7,39,800 acres (2,99,388 hectares) out of a cultivated (cropped) area of 8,46,600 acres (3,42,600 hectares), showing an increase of 9·1 per cent in the areas under cultivation. This increase was 13 per cent in Sadar subdivision and 3·5 per cent in Bhadrak subdivision. In the entire district covering temporarily settled, permanently settled and revenue-free estates the cropped area in Dalziel settlement was 9,21,707 acres (3,73,002 hectares). These figures do not include an area of 9·30 sq. miles (24·08 sq. km.) excluded from settlement, i.e., 6·00 sq. miles (15·54 sq. km.) of Chandinipal jungles in Killa Kanika, and 2·50 sq. miles (6·68 sq. km.) of Khasmahals borne in the revenue-roll of Midnapur district. In the temporarily settled estates there were 1,65,000 acres (66,773 hectares) of culturable wastes including 1,13,000 acres (45,730 hectares) of old fallow and 22,700 acres (9,186 hectares) of jungle. Dalziel estimated that the additional areas available for cultivation is 16 per cent of the total area. The area actually brought under the plough since Maddox settlement was 49,400 acres (19,992 hectares) in the temporarily settled areas of Bhadrak subdivision although Maddox settlement report states that only 40,000 acres (16,187 hectares) were open to future cultivation. Dalziel reported that even after extended cultivation there were still large areas in the sea coast available for reclamation. A large area that was previously scrub jungles in the coastal Parganas was opened for cultivation since last settlement. The coastal tracts were depopulated in the terrible cyclone of 1831 from which it could not recover for a long time. The Oriya cultivators never ventured to re-settle there. It was left for speculators from Midnapur to bring the lands under cultivation by taking settlement of large blocks from zamindars and getting them reclaimed by the Santal labourers from Mayurbhanj and by Muslims from Midnapur. These settlers were known as Chakdars. Although small embankments had to be erected, the cost of cultivation was low, the soil being very good. The productivity of the land led to keen competition. The rate of Salami in late twenties rose to Rs. 50 and Rs. 100 per acre.

Subsequent to the last settlement extensive areas were added to the coastal belt of Baleshwar as accretion from the sea. Those were not surveyed. The ex-intermediaries took advantage of this for settling them with persons mostly belonging to Midnapur and other districts of Bengal by getting higher Salami in preference to the claims of the local people. Some of these leases were made

retrospectively after abolition of the estates by giving back-dated Pattas which attracted the penal provisions contained in section 5 (i) of the Orissa Estates Abolition Act. Under this law if any settlement has been made after the 1st January 1946 with the object of defeating any provisions of the Estates Abolition Act or for obtaining higher compensation thereunder the Collector can set aside the lease after making proper enquiries. By law these accretions should have formed part of the holdings of the adjacent raiyats subject, of course, to payment of additional rent. These illegal leases led to a lot of commotion in the affected villages. To mitigate the effects of cyclone the Government have taken a decision to take up casuarina plantations within one kilometre belt from the high water mark of the sea under the Coastal Belt Afforestation Scheme. But this scheme ran into rough weather owing to large scale cultivation of the coastal lands by way of encroachments or by illegal leases made by the ex-intermediaries. The Subdivisional Officer, Bhadrak reports that in his two coastal Tahasils, viz., Basudebpur and Chandbali, there are 33 coastal villages. He has started 697 encroachment cases in Basudebpur Tahasil involving 1,553.05 acres out of which 416 acres are linked up with proceedings under section 5(i) of the Orissa Estates Abolition Act. Similarly in Chandbali Tahasil, there are 858 encroachment cases involving an area of 4,39.26 acres. Information in respect of other coastal Tahasils, viz., Soro, Baleshwar, Basta and Jaleshwar is not available, but there are also similar cases of illegal leases and encroachments.

In Nilagiri an area of 55,214 acres (22,344 hectares) were recorded as cultivated and occupied in 1886—97 settlement. But in 1917—22 settlement an area of 60,851.93 acres (24,626 hectares) were so recorded giving a rise of 5637.93 acres (2,282 hectares) as the extension of cultivation during the course of 30 years. This 10 per cent increase in the cultivated area in a period of 30 years shows that apparently there was not much room for reclamation.

### **Landlord—Tenant Relationship**

Baleshwar was a district of small estates except in respect of a portion of Kanika ex-state which lay in this district. Barring a few relationship between the landlord and the tenants in most of the estates was never satisfactory during the British period. As has been already stated previously they denied in many cases their legal right of occupancy in land and realised various forms of Abwabs (illegal exactions) in addition to legal rent details of which have been given elsewhere in this chapter. John Beams, who was the Collector of Baleshwar during the period 1869—1873 has given some interesting instances of such Abwabs in his book

called "Memoires of a Bengal Civilian" posthumously published by his grandson Christopher Cook, which may be worthwhile to quote here:

"Very heavily oppressed they were, and it is wonderful how they contrived to exist at all under the numerous exactions to which they were subjected at the hands of their own countrymen. We did our best to protect them, but a mere handful of foreigners in so large a country cannot even hear of many of the things that are done behind their backs. The people are afraid to complain, knowing that if compelled by the English Magistrate to compensate their victims, the powerful oppressors will be able to find many opportunities for revenging themselves. It is only by accident that we find out many abuses, and it is necessary to practise the greatest caution in remedying them lest we should do more harm than good by our wellmeant interference. Such a case occurred about this time, and caused much excitement. It was known as the Illegal Cess Agitation.

One day my Assistant, Fiddian, in-charge of the Bhadrakh Subdivision which comprised the whole southern side of the district, was out in camp on one of his usual tours of inspection. In a very remote corner of the district, where the people understood little or nothing about the principles of British administration, a ryot came up to him as he was riding alone through the fields and asked him, 'Is it ordered that we are to pay tikkus?'

What do you mean by tikkus ? asked Fiddian.

Many things, replied the ryot, our Zamindar makes us pay what he calls tikkus, he says he has to pay it to the Sirkar, and we are to pay it to him, one rupee each house; then there is "tar", one rupee, also "maggan", one or two or even three rupees each whenever he has a son or a daughter married, or wants to give a toast to Brahmans on some religious festival day 'or wants to go on pilgrimage to Jagannath, or to repair his house, or many other things'.

'No, said Fiddian, you have to pay your rent and nothing else'. The man went away, apparently well pleased.

But this set him thinking, and he made elaborate inquiries from which he found out that the Zamindars were in the habit of levying contributions from all their ryots on all sorts of pretexts. 'Tikkus' was their pronunciation of the English word 'Tax'. The Zamindars had to pay the newly introduced and extremely unpopular income tax, and recouped themselves and more than recouped themselves by levying a rupee per house from all their tenants.

When the telegraph line was set up all along the Trunk Road, although the Zamindars had not to pay anything towards its construction, they pretended that they had, and made a levy from all their tenants. This was the 'tar', the telegraph being known as 'tar bijili' or 'lighting wire'. Many other things were made occasions for raising contributions, so that the wretched ryots were ground down to the dust and lived in the direct poverty. I took the matter up earnestly and made inquiries from which it appeared that the practice of levying these illegal cesses was common all over the district, reported the matter to Ravenshaw, the Commissioner, and he caused inquiries to be made in Cuttack and Puri, from which it came to light that the same practices were in vogue there also. He then reported it to Government. Meanwhile the news that the hakims had declared the 'tikkus' to be illegal spread all over the country and up into Bengal where it caused great commotion. In some districts it gave rise to rioting.

Various schemes were proposed for putting a stop to this, none of which were very effective. The Lieutenant-Governor then proposed legislation, and prepared a draft of a law declaring the practices illegal and laying down punishments for such offences. This was, however, stopped by the Government of India on the advice of Sir Richard Temple, then a member of Council, who knew absolutely nothing whatever about the matter or about Bengal, but who, as he afterwards told me, chose to consider it as a mere petty local agitation which it was not wise to encourage.

This was a great disappointment to us, but we did not give up the same. Seeing that the Government would not help us, we determined to help ourselves. We knew that the Government of Bengal was on our side though the far-off, ignorant India Government, as it is called, would not help us. So Fiddian and I commenced a series of tours into all parts of the District, in the course of which we assembled the ryots of each estate together with the Zamindar himself, or if he were an absentee, his agent, found out by questioning the people and examining the Zamindar's books what exactions he was in the habit of making, and explained to the people which of them was illegal. In this way we succeeded in opening their eyes, and stirring them up to resist illegal demands. For a time, there was much confusion, underhand attempts at extortion by the Zamindars, forcibly resisted by the peasants, in a few cases rioting and broken heads. But by degrees the strife ceased; most of the Zamindars gave up their exactions finding they could not enforce them, and though with so timid a peasantry, so masterful a proprietary body, and so wily a crowd of agents, we could never



be sure that exactions were not practised, we soon had abundant proof that they had everywhere very much diminished, and in most places entirely ceased. The result, was, on the whole, considerable increase of material prosperity and comfort for the peasantry and acknowledge of their rights which would render a return to the old state of grinding extortion impracticable in the future. Had we been properly supported, the movement would have grown into a great revolution which would have been fruitful of unspeakable good for the down-trodden agricultural population. However, we did what we could and for the results we were thankful”.

Late Rajendra Narayan Bhanj Deo, ex-zamindar of Kanika estate had imposed as many as 64 Abwabs in his estate during his rule on tenants which had practically broken their economic condition. This was strongly resisted by the people in his entire estate covering part of Baleshwar and Cuttack districts. The peasant revolution in Baleshwar portion of Kanika was spear-headed by late Chakradhar Behera in the early twenties of this century. Utkalmani Gopabandhu Das and Utkal Keshari Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab had courted their first arrest by taking part in this peasant movement. Repressive measures of the Raja also attracted attention of Mahatma Gandhi. During his second visit to Orissa, in the year 1927, he sailed in Matai river from Charbatia in Basudebpur Thana to Panchutikiri. He heard the stories of exploitation and harassment of the tenants of Kanika estate but advised the leader Chakradhar Behera and his associates to continue their struggle against such repressive measures in a non-violent manner.

In fact this peasant revolution was the precursor of the non-co-operation movement or independence struggle in Orissa. Some people in certain areas ceased to pay rent to raja and deposited the amount in the Government treasury. They also brought their complaints to the notice of the British Government. But no step was taken to redress their grievances. The situation gradually worsened and finally the raja took the help of the police contingent from Cuttack. Some people died and many were wounded by the police action in April 1922. At the intervention of raja the British Government took it as a part of non-co-operation movement and as such tried to suppress the movement by all means without making proper enquiries into the state of affairs. The raja also tried his level best not to introduce survey and settlement operations during the last Orissa Settlement by Dalziel. Due to agitation of some leaders like late Chakradhar Behera the Government ultimately agreed to take up survey and settlement operations in Kanika estate which facilitated recording of rights of tenants

and fixation of fair and equitable rent on their holdings. A book titled "Dukhini Kanika" was circulated containing various forms of exactions and instances of repressive measures which evoked strong sympathy not only among the people of the estate but also among the people of Orissa in general. The relationship was so strained that at the time of harvest a police force with a Magistrate was being deputed invariably to remain present at the time of appraisement of the paddy in respect of the lands cultivated by the tenants under Dhulibhag status or Nijchas or Nij-jot lands of the proprietor even till the advent of independence. As has already been stated there were hardly any consciousness among the tenants that under the law Dhulibhag raiyats and the tenants of Nijchas lands had occupancy right and they could apply for commutation of rent which right was never exercised.

The situation did not change very much even after independence except that the temporary lessees under the ex-intermediaries were granted ryoti right under the Orissa Land Reforms Act after abolition of the estates. The oppression of the zamindars ceased and illegal exactions stopped. But the consciousness of the tenants regarding their rights over lands cultivated by them on Bhag basis was never roused. Under the Orissa Tenant's Protection Act, 1948 the Bhag-chasis were protected against arbitrary eviction and rackrenting by their landlords and this was also reiterated and strengthened in the Orissa Tenants Relief Act, 1955. Bhag-chasis in general did not come forward to enforce this right particularly for payment of lawful rent ( $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of the gross produce for occupancy tenants,  $\frac{2}{5}$ th for non-occupancy tenants under the Orissa Tenants Protection Act and  $\frac{1}{4}$ th of gross produce under the Orissa Tenants Relief Act) rather than the customary Bhag of 50 per cent of gross produce. The practice of Bhag-chas was quite rampant in the past and continues unabated even till today in spite of statutory restrictions under the Orissa Land Reforms Act since 1st October 1965.

In the ex-state of Nilagiri a peasant agitation started in the year 1928 for demanding abolition of Bethi (forced labour) and other forms of Abwabs. Here also many cesses and fees were collected forcibly some of which went to the private treasury of raja and were not credited to the state treasury. On special occasions, such as Shikar, Kheda, preparing roads for Shikar, carrying wood, coal and straw for the palace, attending to the tours of the officials, extinguishing fire in the jungle, carrying luggage of the officers, and clearing the aeroplane ground, a paltry sum (2 to 6 pice) was paid to labourers. Rasad which means forced supply of articles demanded by the raja or his officers played its part of oppression

along with Bethi. Sarbarakars were fined for failing to supply Rasad to raja's camp. Fruits, sweetmeats, soda water, lemonade, No. 555 cigarettees, foreign liquor and food articles which were not available locally were also supplied free of cost by the people procuring these either from Baleshwar or Calcutta. He-goats, fowls, and milch cows were also supplied free of cost to the raja. Besides these taxations, Magan was collected on the occasion of raja's marriage, marriage ceremony of any of the sisters or near relatives of the raja and the sacred thread ceremony at the rate of 50 per cent to 75 per cent of rent. Suniya Bheti was given to the raja on the day of Suniya (Oriya New Year's Day) by all the officers, Sarbarakars, Bhadrals (respectable men), Lakhrajars, Purohits and distant relatives of the raj family. There was a Pancha system which means people must supply fuel and straw for use in the palace at nominal price.

In 1928, the Raja of Nilagiri assessed on the tenants a heavy Abwab in connection with the celebration of the marriage ceremony of his daughter. There had already been discontentment among the tenants due to high taxation and extraction on various pretexts as indicated earlier. So, they did not agree to the assessment of further enhancement of Abwab and revolted against it. The raja started oppression. The tenants on the advice of Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab left the state and came in thousands to Baleshwar. Dr. Mahtab wired Rev. C. P. Andrews to come Orissa and look to the situation himself. It was at his intervention that a settlement could be arrived at and the raja agreed to pay proper remuneration for services obtained from the people. The tenants then closed down the agitation and returned home. In the book "India and Simon Commission", Rev. Andrews wrote, "shortly after the departure of Mahatma Gandhi from Orissa for the Madras Congress about a thousand residents of a neighbouring Garjat ran away to Baleshwar with stories of relentless cruelty and oppression perpetrated on them. Their allegation was that the Raja was squandering away everything in luxury; that there were no accounts maintained of the rents realised, that people's suffering had exceeded all limits and many of them had left the State in search of justice. They were waiting at Baleshwar for months together with endless patience which could be compared with the patience of Job in the Bible." They were firm that they would not return home until their sufferings were remedied. At Baleshwar some Swaraj workers had also helped these poor people by saving them from starvation. The situation changed after merger of the state in Orissa with effect from the 1st January 1948 when the ralyats came directly under the State Government.

## LAND REFORMS

With the implementation of land reform measures various incidence of land tenures described in the preceding paragraphs have only historical significance. The incidence of rights and liabilities, etc., of those tenures have either been obliterated or substantially modified since the attainment of independence in August 1947 owing to abolition of intermediaries. Pending enforcement of comprehensive land reform measures certain ad-hoc enactments like of Orissa Tenants Protection Act, 1948 and the Orissa Tenants Relief Act 1955 were enforced to prevent arbitrary eviction and rack-renting of the tenants by the landlords. Land Reforms in its proper sense began with the enforcement of the Orissa Estates Abolition Act, 1951 (Act I of 1952), which may be considered as the greatest revolutionary measure in the field of land reforms. The objective of bringing the actual cultivation in direct relationship with the state was achieved in two phases. The first phase consisted of enforcement of the Orissa Estates Abolition Act which sought to abolish all intermediaries between the state and the raiyat, and the second phase was the enforcement of the Orissa Land Reforms Act with effect from the 1st October 1965 which aimed at abolishing all raiyat-intermediaries between the state and the actual cultivator where the raiyat himself was not in cultivating possession of the land, by prohibiting Bhag-chas.

The broad feature of these two revolutionary legislations are described in brief in the following paragraphs with their impact on the land tenures in Baleshwar district.

### **Orissa Estates Abolition Act, 1951**

This Act came into force with effect from the 9th February, 1952 and it provided for abolition of all rights, title and interest in land of all intermediaries by whatever name known between the raiyat and the state of Orissa and authorised the State Government to issue notification from time to time declaring that any estate has passed to and become vested in the state free from all encumbrance. An intermediary with reference to any estate was defined as proprietor, sub-proprietor, landlord, land-holder, Malguzar, Thikadar, Gaontia, tenure-holder, under-tenure-holder and included an Inamdar, a Jagirdar, Jamindar, Ilāquadar, Kherposhdar, Praganadar, Sarbarakar and Maufidar including the ruler of an Indian state merged with the state of Orissa and all other holders or owners of interest in land between the raiyat and the state. A raiyat was defined as a person having right of occupancy according to the tenancy law or rules or custom prevalent in that area. On publication of the notification,

the entire estate shall vest absolutely in the State Government free from all encumbrances and the intermediary shall cease to have any interest other than the interest expressly saved by or under the provisions of this Act for which he will get compensation as fixed under the Act. What was saved in favour of the intermediary was the homesteads in possession of the intermediary which he will retain on payment of rent as an occupancy tenant (Section 6 of the O. E. A. Act). Besides he will also retain all lands used for agricultural or horticultural purpose which were in his "khas possession" on the date of vesting which will be settled with him on raiyati status on payment of fair and equitable rent (Section 7 of the O. E. A. Act). Such lands held by temporary lessees were also to be settled with him on similar terms if he was the owner of less than thirty-three acres of land in total extent situated within the state. Temporary lessee (tenants without occupancy rights) under the 'intermediary,' owning more than 33 acres on the date of vesting and Jagir-holders who are village servants would be deemed to be tenants under the State Government and hold their lands under the same terms and subject to the same restrictions and liabilities under which they held the lands before the date of vesting (all such tenants were to attain raiyati status under provisions of the Orissa Land Reforms Act). But Jagir-holders for rendering personal service to the intermediary shall be discharged from the conditions of such service and lands in their possession will be settled with them on raiyati tenure. All such persons claiming raiyati status under the Act were to apply for settlement of lands before the Tahasildar within a prescribed period. As many persons failed to apply within the period prescribed, Government extended the period from time to time by executive instructions and ordered to treat the application for settlement as lease applications. The Collector was given the authority to cancel any lease given or transfer made of any land by the intermediary at any time after the 1st January 1946 if such lease or transfer was made with the object of defeating any provisions of the Act or obtaining higher compensation thereunder after making necessary enquiries and after giving opportunity to the parties concerned to appear and be heard (section 5 (i) of the O. E. A. Act). Subsequently from May 1986, Deshata Jagirs (village servants holding Jagir lands) were also abolished and the Jagirdars were treated as occupancy raiyats.

On the 27th November, 1952 the first batch of notification under section 3 of the Act vesting 271 permanently settled and temporarily settled estates were issued. The zamindar of Kanika whose estate partly lay to the extent of 453 sq. km. in Baleshwar filed a writ petition in the High Court of Orissa for directing the State Government not to interfere in his rights and not to take possession of his estate which was ultimately dismissed. In the next batch

of notifications 472 temporarily estates vested in 1953. In 1954, 2651 estates vested. Between 1956-64, 11 estates vested. Thus a total of 3405 proprietary estates vested in the State Government under the O.E.A. Act. It may thus be seen that in Dalziel Settlement period the number of temporarily settled estates was 2394 and the number of permanently settled estates was 150. Against 2544 estates, the number of proprietary estates increased to 3405 mainly due to partition among the co-shares of the temporarily settled estates. Besides the right, title and interest of sub-proprietors, tenure-holders, and revenue-free tenures and revenue-free estates were also abolished in different phases. One sub-proprietary estate vested in 1957, 257 such estates vested in 1958 and 895 in 1959. Thus interests of 1153 sub-proprietory estates vested by 1959 (in Dalziel Settlement period there were 1046 sub-proprietary tenures). Between 1956-1963 interests of 40,502 tenure-holders were abolished. (In Dalziel Settlement period there were 35,917 tenure-holders in temporarily settled estates and 2820 in permanently settled estates). 334 tenures in Nilagiri ex-State vested in 1963. The records maintained in the Collectorate relating to the particulars of revenue-free and tiny estates were hopelessly out-of-date. Since notifications have to specify particulars regarding the estate to be vested it was thought that mentioning incorrect particulars may lead to serious legal difficulties. The Act was therefore amended authorising the Government to issue general notifications for vesting without mentioning the name of any intermediaries, but only describing the class to which the estates belong. After this amendment general notifications were issued abolishing all intermediary interests including interests of revenue-free estates. Three revenue free estates had vested in 1959 and two in 1960. But in 1963 as many as 34,231 revenue-free estates in Baleshwar proper and 5054 in Nilagiri vested. (Dalziel had recorded 34,627 revenue-free estates in Baleshwar.)

Out of 39,285 revenue-free estates that vested in the entire district of Baleshwar, 5739 were religious and charitable institutions some of which could come under the definition of "trust estate". A "trust estate" as defined in the 1955 amendment of the Orissa Estates Abolition Act was an estate the net income of which was dedicated exclusively to charitable or religious purposes of a public nature without any reservation of pecuniary benefit to any individual. Initially trust estates were treated on par with other estates without being given a separate treatment. They therefore vested along with other estates in the state and so the Jagir lands given for Seva-puja of the deities could not be saved. But in 1970 the O.E.A. Act was amended eliminating the religious and charitable trusts from the ambit of vesting notifications as properties of such estates

constituted the main source of income of the trust. Thus Jagirdars who were rendering various service to the public deities were allowed to continue as before. But again in 1974 Government decided to abolish all intermediary interests including those of trust estates. This decision was prompted by an important development in the field of revenue administration. Land revenue rent payable to Government was abolished in 1970. But this benefit was not available to raiyats holding land under the trust estates. By virtue of notification dated the 18th March 1974 all these trust estates were again abolished. As usual the holders of ex-trust estates were allowed to file claims for settlement of lands in their Khas possession under sections 6 and 7 of the O. E. A. Act within a prescribed period, and thereafter the revenue officers were authorised to start *sou-moto* cases without waiting for applications. All the incidence of rights and obligations created under the O. E. A. Act continued to be applied to the trusts. Trust estates except the Jagir-holders holding lands for Seva-puja of the deities would continue as before in spite of the vesting and further the property of the nature of Sairat like, Hat, bazar, orchard, mine, quarry or tank, etc., which were needed for carrying out the purpose of the trust efficiently would not vest but would be settled with the trust on payment of fair and equitable rent. The Orissa Land Reforms Act recognised their right to give lands on lease if they were declared as privileged raiyat within the meaning of section 2 (24) of the O.L.R. Act. But this benefit was not extended to Maths as Maths were treated differently from trust estates. In the district of Baleshwar 4,142 institutions have been declared as trust estates under section 13-D of O. E. A. Act and 1687 have been declared as privileged raiyats under section 2 (24) of the O. L. R. Act. Out of this 1483 are temples, 15 Maths and 187 wakf properties. Compensation to the extent of Rs. 2,01, 22,465/- has so far been awarded to all intermediaries including trust estates. An arrear annuity of Rs. 40,221/- has been awarded in favour of 2791 trust estates.

In Baleshwar district 93,784 compensation cases were started, out of which 90,019 have been disposed of. Compensation of over 2 crores of rupees has been awarded till the end of March, 1987. Cases instituted and disposed of in all the Tahasils of the district under various sections of Orissa Estates Abolition Act are given below:

40,167 cases were started for settlement of lands under sections 6 and 7 of the Orissa Estates Abolition Act in Khas possession of the ex-intermediaries including trust estates and all these cases have since been disposed of by March, 1987. No information or statistics is available regarding the extent of land, the number of beneficiaries and the amount of rent settled. It was, however, found that some intermediaries of petty and small revenue-free estates and tenures could not

avail of the opportunity of filing their claims/petitions in time due to their ignorance of law. Moreover, by the time settlement operation started many cases had not been disposed of by the Tahasildars. All such cases have been recorded under Bebandobast (ବେ ବେନ୍ଦାବସ୍ତ) status in the current settlement records.

3,204 cases were started under section 8 (3) of Orissa Estates Abolition Act for settlement of lands in favour of Jagirdars doing personal service. All such cases have also been disposed of. No information is available regarding the extent of land settled, and the number of beneficiaries. Where cases had not been disposed of by the time settlement operations started, such Jagir lands have also been recorded in Bebandobast status. The Settlement Officer reports that in 3,305 villages completed so far from settlement operations in the district (This does not cover 418 villages transferred to the Consolidation Organization), as many as 57,309 holdings with an extent of 53,809 acres have been recorded in Bebandobast status. These lands if not covered by proceedings u/s 6,7 and 8 (3) of the Orissa Estates Abolition Act will either vest in Government or be settled with the beneficiaries by the Tahasildars on fixation of fair and equitable rent. Government is losing a lot of money by not settling them in favour of persons who are entitled to such settlement or by not starting encroachment cases against persons in possession if they are not covered by the proceedings under the Orissa Estates Abolition Act.

11,268 cases were started under section 5 (i) of the Orissa Estates Abolition Act, out of which 11,048 have been disposed of leaving a balance of 220 by March, 1987. No information is available regarding the extent of land in which the leases have been declared void and the extent of land confirmed. It has been observed elsewhere that there was substantial accretion of land from the sea after the last revision settlement. The ex-intermediaries had leased out most of these lands in favour of persons from outside Orissa in preference to the legal claims of the villagers. Most of these lands appear to have been leased out after vesting by giving back-dated receipts/documents. The district administration should take steps for declaring all such illegal leases void.

As stated above many ex-intermediaries/Jagirdars could not file claim petitions within the prescribed period for settling lands in their possession in their favour. All such cases were ordered to be treated as lease cases under Orissa Estates Abolition Act. 66,600 cases were started either on application or *suo motu* by the Tahasildars. Out of this 66,219 have been disposed of by December, 1986, having a balance of 381. No information is available regarding the extent of land settled and the number of beneficiaries.



Before enforcement of Land Reforms proper the private land (lands held on the date of merger by a ruler free of rent) of rulers of ex-states were made liable to assessment and levy of rent under the Orissa Private Lands of Rulers (Assessment of Rent) Act, 1958. Under this law private land belonging to the Raja of Nilagiri and his relatives and dependants were assessed to rent. Chowkidari system was abolished under the Orissa Offices of Village Police (Abolition) Act, 1964. The Jagir lands held by the Chowkidars were resumed and vested in State Government but they were settled with rights of occupancy on fixation of fair and equitable rent but free of Salami in favour of the Chowkidars or his co-sharers or tenants as may be found in possession of such lands on the appointed date. Government later ordered that if any Chowkidar had no Jagir land, Government waste land and even Gochar lands could be settled with them, if available, free of Salami in the same or in the neighbouring village.

These Chowkidars who held offices more or less on hereditary basis were later re-placed by Grama Rakshis appointed under the Orissa Grama Rakshi Act, 1967.

#### **Orissa Land Reforms Act, 1960**

This Act came into force with effect from the 1st October, 1965 except Chapters III and IV. Chapter III providing for resumption of land from temporary tenants for personal cultivation and for the giving raiyati rights to the irremovable lands to such tenants became effective from the 9th December 1965. Chapter IV relating to fixation of ceiling and disposal of ceiling surplus land became effective from the 2nd October 1973. The main features of the Act as subsequently amended from time to time and its effect on the land tenures in the district are summarised in the following paragraphs;—

Chapter II relates to raiyats and the tenants under them. It enumerates the different categories of persons who shall be deemed to be raiyats for the purpose of the Act. In addition to all the persons having right of occupancy, it includes in the category of raiyats (where they had not already acquired such right under the relevant laws)—

- (a) persons entitled to acquire right of occupancy in the Khammar lands of the rulers in any ex-state and persons holding lands on service tenure under the ruler or under any member of his family;
- (b) temporary lessees in the personal cultivation of lands in vested estates except 'Char' and 'Diara' and Utbandi lands; and

- (c) recorded sub-tenants and under-raiyats except those recorded after the 30th September, 1965 in respect of lands belonging to a person under disability or to a privileged raiyat.

In order to acquire the right of a raiyat, the temporary lease, the sub-tenant or the under-raiyat, as the case may be, or his successor-in-interest (heritability to such temporary tenant was conceded for the first time by an amendment of the Act in 1976) has to apply to the Tahasildar for settlement of the land with him within a prescribed period as extended from time to time and on payment of compensation at the rate of eight hundred rupees per standard acre of land to be paid in five equal instalments as may be fixed by the Tahasildar (originally this was fifty per cent of the market value). 13,425 persons got raiyati right over 13,685 acres of land in Baleshwar district till the 31st December 1986 under this provision of law. A raiyat liable to pay produce rent shall not pay more than 1/8th of the gross produce or equivalent thereof. The right of a raiyat is permanent heritable and transferable but he shall have no right to lease out his lands unless he is a "person under disability" or is a "privileged raiyat". The right of transfer of raiyati land has been made void from 1976 for a period of ten years without obtaining prior permission from the Tahasildar in respect of lands settled for agricultural purposes, except transfers made in favour of Scheduled Bank or a co-operative society by way of mortgage. He is liable to eviction if he,

- (a) has used the land comprised in his holding in a manner which renders it unfit for the purpose,
- (b) has leased out the land in contravention of the provisions of the Act, or
- (c) has used the land for any purpose other than agriculture

Conditions (b) and (c) are new obligations of the raiyat which were not there either in the Orissa Tenancy Act or in the Merged State (Laws) Act. Although Bhag-chas has been prohibited since 1st October 1965, raiyats who are neither "persons under disability" nor "privileged raiyats" continue to lease out their raiyati lands in full or in part to tenants and are realising about fifty per cent of the produce with impunity. Not a single case has been started for eviction of the raiyat for leasing out his land in contravention of the law. No tenant is willing to enforce his right of acquiring raiyati right over such land by applying to the Collector for fear of being evicted by the landlord. The cost of personal cultivation has become prohibitive owing to sharp increase in cost of agricultural labour and inputs. Bag-chas is likely to continue indefinitely till personal cultivation

continues to be unremunerative and till the tenants remain unaware of their rights or are unwilling to enforce them. Enforcement of their right in litigation is not easy. Similar is the case with regard to use of land for purposes other than agriculture. Although large scale conversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes has taken place, no step has yet been taken for evicting the raiyat. These two provisions of law have, therefore, remained inoperative in practice.

The transfer of land by a raiyat belonging to a Scheduled Tribe/Caste shall be void unless it is made in favour of a person belonging to a Scheduled Tribe/Caste or with the previous permission in writing of the Subdivisional Officer\*. The Revenue Officer shall not grant such permission unless he is satisfied that a purchaser belonging to a Scheduled Tribe/Caste and willing to pay the market price is not available. The S. D. O. *suo motu* or on application by any person interested shall cause restoration of the property thus illegally interested to the transferer or his heirs after causing necessary enquiry. The transferee after being evicted from such land shall not be entitled to the refund of any amount paid by him to the transferer by way of consideration money. Similar provisions apply to unauthorised occupation of the whole or part of holding of a S. C./S. T. raiyat by way of trespass or otherwise. In such cases, the adverse possession in favour of the occupant will be "thirty" years instead of "twelve" years as provided in the Limitation Act, 1963. 1,065 cases were started for restoration of S. C./S. T. lands illegally transferred or forcibly occupied out of which 993 cases had been disposed of by the 31st December, 1986 in which 273 acres were restored in favour of 469 persons. This provision of law in the O. L. R. Act is not applicable to Nilagiri Block No. 1 which has been declared as a Scheduled Area under the Scheduled Area (Constitution) Order in 1977. A similar law, namely, the Orissa (Scheduled Areas) Transfer of Immovable Property (by Scheduled Tribes) Regulation, 1956 (Regulation 2 of 1956) is applicable to this area, in respect of lands belonging to the Scheduled Tribes.

A raiyat or a tenant of a village having no permanent and heritable right in respect of any site on which his dwelling house or farm house stands is entitled to get raiyati right on it or on a portion thereof not exceeding 1/5th of an area. 768 such persons have got raiyati rights over 110 acres of homestead lands under this Act up to the 31st December 1986.

A tenant with temporary right (Bhag-chasi) shall not be liable to pay more than 1/4th of the gross produce of the land or value thereof as produce-rent subject to a maximum of 8, 6, 4, 2 standard

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\*Now designated as Sub-Collector.

maunds of paddy or value thereof respectively for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th classes of land. This right has been made heritable (but not transferable) under the Orissa Land Reforms (Amendment) Act, 1976. The landlord has right to evict such a tenant only if the tenant—

- (a) has used the land in a manner which renders it unfit for the purpose of agriculture; or
- (b) has failed to cultivate the land properly or personally; or
- (c) has failed to pay or deliver to the landlord the rent within a period of two months from the date by which it becomes payable, there being no dispute regarding the quantum of such rent.

Besides the tenant shall also cease to have the right to cultivate the land if the landlord is a "person under disability" at the end of the year during which the disability ceases or if the landlord being a privileged raiyat/person under disability ceases to be the landlord. A person under disability is defined as a-

- (a) widow, unmarried or divorced woman;
- (b) minor;
- (c) person incapable of cultivating by reason of some mental or physical disability;
- (d) a serving member of the Armed Forces;
- (e) a person, the total extent of whose lands held in any capacity does not exceed three standard acres (till 1976 this limit was five standard acres).

A standard acre is defined as equivalent to one acre of class-I land (irrigated land capable of growing two or more crops a year),  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres of class-II land (irrigated land in which not more than one crop could be grown in a year), three acres of class-III land (unirrigated land capable of growing paddy) and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  acres of class-IV land (any other land). A privileged raiyat is defined as (a) a co-operative society, (b) Lord Jagannath and his temple and (c) any trust or other institutions declared as such under the Act before commencement of Orissa Amendment Act 17 of 1973 or by a competent authority under the Orissa Estates Abolition Act or by the Tribunal to be a religious or charitable trust under section 57-A or any public financial institution. 1687 religious and charitable institutions have been declared as "privileged raiyat," but the number of persons declared as "persons under disability" is not available.

Chapter III provides for resumption of land by the landlord for personal cultivation. Protection to temporary tenants from arbitrary eviction had continuously been given since 1948 when the Orissa Tenancy Protection Act was passed. A right to resumption of land for personal cultivation upto seven standard acres was given under the Orissa Tenants Reliefs Act, 1955. But the time allowed for exercising the option was very short. Under the Orissa Land Reforms Act provision was made to the effect that landlord wishing to resume land for personal cultivation should indicate his desire to do so both to the Tahasildar and to the tenants concerned within a specified time. This right of resumption was somewhat restricted in the sense that a landlord was entitled to resume not more than a fixed portion of the land from the tenant. Where the landlord failed to cultivate the land personally after resumption, the land would revert to tenant who can acquire raiyati right on payment of compensation. If the tenant does not acquire tenancy right in the resumable land which is not resumed by the landlord on payment of compensation within a specified period the land will revert to the landlord. A tenant was also given similar right to apply for raiyati right on non-resumable land. Besides, the Tahasildars were given *suo moto* powers to confer raiyati right on tenants, if they failed to apply in time. Bhag-chas having been prohibited with effect from the 1st October 1965 except by "whom persons under disability" or by "privileged raiyats", any to whom land is leased out after the 1st October 1965 in contravention of the provisions of the Act is entitled to get raiyati right either on application or by *suo moto* action by the Tahasildar. An extent of 5,865 acres have been settled on raiyati basis in favour of 5,486 tenants till the 31st December 1986 under Chapter III of the Orissa Land Reforms Act but the extent of land resumed in favour of raiyat-landlords for their personal cultivation is not available. Out of 14800 cases instituted, only 13 cases were pending by the 31st December 1986.

Chapter IV relates to fixation of ceiling and disposal of ceiling surplus lands. As originally enacted, the ceiling was 20 standard acres per person which included within its definition a joint Hindu Mitakshara family. But its operation was stayed as the ceiling limit was considered excessive which would defeat the objective of distributive justice. To prevent transfers of surplus lands in excess of the reduced ceiling to be fixed later, an Ordinance was promulgated with effect from 17th August 1972 prohibiting transfer of lands by owners having more than ten standard acres. After effecting necessary amendments the amended Act became effective from 2nd October 1973 in which the ceiling limit was fixed at 10 standard acres for a family of not more than five members. Where a family consists of more than five members the

ceiling area will be increased by two standard acres for each member subject to a maximum of 18 standard acres. A family in relation to an individual means the individual, the husband or wife, as the case may be, of such individual, and their children, whether major or minor, but does not include a major married son who as such had separated by partition or otherwise before 26th September 1970. After determination of ceiling surplus lands in the prescribed manner by filling returns within a prescribed period or *suo moto* by the Tahasildar, as the case may be, the said lands shall vest absolutely in the Government free from all encumbrances. For the vested lands the owners will get certain amount (no compensation) varying from Rs. 800/- to Rs. 200/- per standard acre depending on the extent of ceiling surplus land to be vested. 70 per cent of the ceiling surplus lands will be settled with persons belonging to Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes and 30 per cent in favour of others according to a certain order of priority, preference being given to landless agricultural labourers, up to 7/10 standard acres of land on payment of Salami at the rate of Rs. 400/- per standard acre of land. Payment of Salami has been ordered to be waived with effect from 1st November 1985 on the occasion of first death anniversary of the late Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi. Till 31st March, 1986 an extent of only 1865.78 acres of ceiling surplus lands have been allotted in favour of 3880 beneficiaries, of whom 1847 are Scheduled Castes and 637 Scheduled Tribes. To raise the poor landless allottees above the poverty line a central scheme of financial assistance for improvement of the allotted land and for purchase of inputs is in operation from the year 1975-76. The quantum of assistance which was Rs. 1000/- per hectare has been raised to Rs. 2500/- per hectare from the year 1983-84. Till 31st March 1986, an amount of Rs. 2,38,053 has been released in favour of the allottees both by the Central and the State Governments on 50:50 basis.

#### **BHOODAN**

In the early part of fifties, Acharya Vinoba Bhave initiated a movement called Bhoodan Yagna for acquisition of land through voluntary gift with a view to distributing the same to the landless persons. To facilitate donation of lands in connection with Bhoodan Yagna and to provide for distribution of such lands and for matters of ancillary thereto, the Orissa Bhoodan Yagna Act was enacted in 1953 which if implemented with the spirit with which the movement was ushered in, would have brought in a revolutionary change in the ideas of land ownership. It provided for the establishment of a Bhoodan Yagna Samiti in favour of which donation of land could be made by the land-owners. Distribution of donated land was made through the Samiti in the prescribed manner. Certain restrictions were placed on the allottees

in the matter of transfer and disposal of the allotted lands. The total extent of land donated and distributed to the allottees under Bhoodan/Gramdan is 1424 acres till 31st December 1986. 968 Bhoodan cases were started, out of which 374 were confirmed, and 517 rejected. 77 cases are still pending for disposal by 31st March 1986.

#### WASTE LAND SETTLEMENT

As has already been stated there were no intermediaries with landed interest between the state and the raiyat in the ex-state of Nilagiri. In this ex-state wasteland allotment was being made directly by the Durbar Administration. The rest of the district was a zamindari area excepting a small area of 18,558 acres (7510.19 hectares) in 19 Khasmahals and allotment of land was made either by proprietors, or by sub-proprietors or by tenure holders or their officials according to the degree of ownership each class of tenure had over the estate. Thus the landlords had the absolute power to lease out waste and forest lands including in some cases reserved lands like Gochar until this power was restricted by the Orissa Preservation of Private Forest Act 1947. This Act was followed by the Orissa Communal, Forest and Private Lands (Prohibition of Alienation) Act, 1948 (Act I of 1948), which was enacted to prohibit retrospectively from 1st April 1946 alienation of communal, forest and private lands without prior permission of the Collector. Section 61 of the Orissa Tenancy Act provided that no waste land could be reclaimed by the raiyat without the written consent of the landlord. But the consent of the landlord was presumed if within 4 years from the date on which the raiyat commenced reclamation the landlord has not made any application to the Collector for his ejectment. Thus all encroachments over wastelands could be legalised as raiyati lands, as no landlord had exercised this right of filing application for ejectment. This law also applied to government lands in Khasmahal areas where the Government was the landlord until section 61 was made inapplicable to the Government lands under section 5 of the Orissa Government Land Settlement Act 1962. After abolition of the estates there was no law authorising any appropriate authority to lease out wastelands for agricultural or other purpose, except what was contained in a set of executive instructions in the Government Estate Manual. Government for the first time prescribed a set of principles for settlement of wastelands in their order dated 26th October 1964 called "Approved Lease Principles". This rule prescribed a priority of settlement outside reserved areas in favour of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes having lands less than five acres to the extent of 5 acres only including homestead lands. The landless persons belonging to other backward classes and other landless persons would get preference next to the landless S. Cs. and S. Ts. Persons having lands exceeding five acres were not to get any settlement of wastelands but all encroachments prior to 13th September, 1961

which were not objectionable were to be settled with encroachers irrespective of the area owned or encroached on payment of a nominal Salami of Rs.50/-to Rs.150/-according to the quality and productivity of the land. Under this rule the Tahasildars appear to have freely exercised powers to lease out government lands including those with good forest growth even in favour of persons who were not agriculturists. This happened because definition of "landless person" was not correlated to the source of livelihood. The definition of "landless person" was subsequently modified on 29th May 1965 to mean a person having no profitable income or livelihood other than agriculture if he owns either as tenant or as raiyat less than five acres of land including land held as such by any member of his family living with him in one mess. The Approved Lease Principles" were followed by the Orissa Government Land Settlement Act 1963 which came into force from 1st January 1965. This Act was supposed to supersede the executive instructions contained in the Approved Lease Principles", but the lease principles being more exhaustive were followed in toto as the O. G. L. S. Act as enacted in 1962 contained a lot of lacunae. Major changes removing most of the lacunae were effected in the Presidential Act 22 of 1973 which came into force from 1st February 1974. This Act also underwent further amendment in 1975 and in 1981 to make its implementation more effective. Government also amended the lease principles by issuing executive instructions from time to time. Under the revised instructions encroachments made prior to 16th August 1972 could be settled with an encroacher to the extent he was landless. In the definition of landless 2 acres was substituted for 5 acres for settlement of unobjectionable encroachments. But for S. Cs. and S. Ts. the limit of five acres for landless remained unaltered. The lease principles besides making provisions for settlement of land for agriculture also made provisions of settlement of homestead lands in rural, semi-urban and rapidly developing areas according to a certain order of priority. Settlement of land in urban areas was made under the Orissa State Urban Land Settlement Rules, 1959.

The present law regarding settlement of government lands is that 70 per cent of the settleable lands shall be settled with persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in proportion to their respective population in the village in which the land is situated, and the remaining shall be settled with other persons in the following order of priority:

- (a) co-operative farming societies formed by landless agricultural labourers;
- (b) any landless agricultural labourer of the village in which the land is situated or of any neighbouring village;



- (c) ex-servicemen or members of the Armed Forces of the Union, if they belong to the village in which the land is situated;
- (d) raiyats who personally cultivate not more than one standard acre of land;
- (e) in the absence of persons belonging to any of the foregoing categories, any other person.

No government land shall be settled in urban areas for agricultural purposes. Lands covered by forest growth or recorded as forest shall not be settled for any purpose whatsoever without prior approval of Government. In each village, land for homestead purpose shall be demarcated separately and no settlement shall be made outside the demarcated areas. The statutory rules now provide for settlement of house-sites in urban areas. The powers of sanction of settlement of government land for various purposes have been specified in the Schedule II of the Orissa Government Land Settlement Rules 1983. Power for settlement of land beyond the delegations made there in for purposes other than agriculture shall lie with the Government. The Tahasildar's power of settlement for agricultural purposes in favour of landless agricultural labourers is limited to one standard acre and for homestead purpose up to five decimals subject to confirmation by S. D. O. (Sub-Collector.)

No reliable figure is available regarding extent of land settled under the lease principles or under the Orissa Government Land Settlement Act prior to 1974-75. But from 1974-75 up to 31st March 1986 the extent of land settled with the landless persons is 4,727 acres in favour of beneficiaries. Out of them the number of S. T. beneficiaries is 2,724 who have got 1,785 acres and the number of Scheduled Caste beneficiaries is 1802 who have got 1473 acres. Providing homestead to homesteadless persons is included in the 20-point Programme and Government also have laid emphasis on providing homesteads free of cost to poor people in the villages. Even in some urban and fast developing areas the homesteadless persons are being given land up to 4 decimals free of cost. From the year 1974-75 to 31st March 1986, 10,764 families have got 509 acres of land out of which 5,299 Scheduled Tribes got 266 acres and 3,221 Scheduled Castes families got 138 acres. Section 6-A of the Orissa Land Reforms Act prohibits transfer of such lands within a period of 10 years without the permission of the Revenue Officer (Tahasildar) and Section 3-B of the O. G. L. S. Act, authorises him to resume such lands if it is used for any purpose other than that for which it was settled. No case has yet been started for taking action for enforcement of this provision of law.

### Encroachments

Encroachment on wasteland was always being encouraged by the zamindars in the interest of realisation of rent from the cultivators. Encroachments on communal/reserved lands were being dealt with as public nuisance under provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code or the encroachers were being prosecuted under section 290 of the Indian Penal Code which was an indirect method. But under section 61 of the Orissa Tenancy Act an encroacher could acquire an occupancy right even if the land was Rakshit. After abolition of intermediaries which resulted in vesting of all waste/jungle/ Rakshit/communal lands in the State Government free from all encumbrances, the Orissa Prevention of Land Encroachment Act was passed in 1954 for prevention of unauthorised occupation of Government land which included in its definition lands of local authorities/corporations/companies owned or controlled by the State Government. This Act was replaced by the O. P. L. E. Act, 1972 which has since undergone several amendments, one in 1975, another in 1976, a third in 1979 and a fourth in 1983. This Act gave summary powers to Tahasildars for eviction of encroachments and for levy of assessment, penalty and for imprisonment in civil jail. This Act also provides for settlement of land in favour of encroacher, if the encroachment is unobjectionable in favour of certain categories of poor persons up to one standard acre in rural areas for agricultural purposes and 1/20th of an acre in urban areas for homestead. In spite of such stringent provision of law, encroachments both in rural and urban areas are rampant. In spite of the circulars issued by the Board of Revenue and the statutory provision in O. P. L. E. Rules to cover all cases of encroachments by O. P. L. E. proceedings, encroachment cases are started only in respect of a few encroachments. Whatever cases are started are not pursued and they continue indefinitely from year to year. According to entries in the encroachment case registers of the Tahasildars, 40,163 cases were started, out of which only 2,509 were disposed by 28th February 1987, most of which were probably ended in settlement rather than in eviction.

### SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT

The current settlement operation in the district started in the year 1961 for simultaneous operation (survey, record-of-rights preparation and settlement of rent) under section 36 of the Orissa Survey and Settlement Act, 1958, just 30 years after the last revision settlement was finalised in the year 1932. Notifications bringing different area of the district within the purview of the settlement were issued between the years 1960 and 1979. The programme covered the whole district including the ex-state of Nilagiri, excluding 345 villages of Basta police-station and 1 village, namely,

Nampo of Jaleshwar police-station. (These 346 villages were subsequently intended to be covered under the Consolidation operation which were notified in the years 1974—1976). Baleshwar district formed a wing of Baleshwar-Mayurbhanj Major Settlement with headquarters at Baripada, with one or two Charge Officers at Baleshwar. Initially it functioned as a part of Cuttack Major Settlement until its separation on the 1st April 1964. Before taking up Survey and Settlement operation the district had a total of 4,442 villages. 345 villages of Basta police-station and 1 village of Jaleshwar police-station were covered by the Consolidation operation before settlement operation was taken up in these areas. Another batch of 91 villages consisting of 71 villages of Bhadrak police-station and 20 villages of Singla police-station were taken up by Consolidation Organization while settlement operation was in progress. Thus 4,005 villages were left for completion of settlement operation. 73 villages were amalgamated with the neighbouring villages and 29 villages were newly formed from the existing villages with the approval of Board of Revenue by resorting to Boundary Change Proceedings under Rule 61 of the Orissa Survey and Settlement Rules, 1962. The total number of villages thus were reduced to 3961 villages. These villages were divided into seven blocks (A, B, C, D, D-I, E, F.) according to the year of initiation of operation. By the end of December, 1987, settlement operation has been completed in respect of 3,315 villages between the years 1969 and 1978, leaving 646 villages which are at different stages of operation. (In this settlement there has been a great time-lag between initiation and completion of settlement very much unlike the work in all other previous settlements. The period has varied from 8 years in case of Soro, Bant, Remuna, Khaira police-stations to 24 years in case of Dhamnagar and Bhandaripokhari police-stations). Out of 646 villages, 13 villages are at the stage of Bujharat and attestation, 93 under Draft Publication and Objection Hearing and 540 villages are awaiting the last stage of operation, i.e., Final Publication and Patta distribution.

The Settlement Officer has reported that the Sabik area of villages comprising the district was 1,324,486 acres (536,003 hectares). The Hal area after the settlement has been increased to 1,422,642 acres (575,725 hectares). Increase in the area is attributed to inclusion of 31 villages (41 villages of Mayurbhanj district and 1 village of Kendujhar district included and 11 villages of Baleshwar district transferred to Kendujhar district), survey of unsurveyed areas and amalgamation of some lands accreted from the sea. (The information furnished by different agencies with regard to the area of the district do not agree with each other and it is difficult to

reconcile these figures. However, the area furnished by the **Settlement Officer** can be taken to be reasonably reliable). The area occupied by the **Reserved Forests** are not included within the village area during the settlement operation.

During the current round of settlement operations, lands have been recorded mainly under four categories :

- (1) raiyati land, i.e., lands held by raiyats under **Shitiban** status.
- (2) Government land under four **Khatas**, viz. **Abad Jogya Anabadi**, **Abad Ajogya Anabadi**, **Sarbasadharan** and **Rakshit**.
- (3) **Departmental** lands, i.e., lands held by different **Departments** of Government.
- (4) **Bebandobasti**, i.e., lands vested with Government under the provisions of the **Orissa Estates Abolition Act, 1951 (Act I of 1952)** but right, title and interest not yet decided.

There are also some lands under **Chandana**, **Jagir**, **Chirasthai Jama Bisista** (fixed rent) and **Sikim** statuses. During the last settlement operations, lands were recorded under a large number of statuses. But as a result of various land reform measures statuses have been rationalised to a great extent.

Settlement operation is being done under four stages, i.e., (1) **Kistwar** and **Khanapuri** (2) **Bujharat** and **Attestation**, (3) **Draft Publication** and **Objection Hearing**, and (4) **Final Publication** and **Patta Distribution**. Under the first stage of operation the village is surveyed and lands held by different persons, institutions, departments, etc., are separately mapped and preliminary record-of-rights prepared by causing local enquiries. In the next stage of operation extracts of preliminary record-of-rights are supplied to the land owners as well as landlords and record-of-rights explained, called **Bujharat**. Mistakes, omissions and commissions are enquired into and records corrected and attested. During the third stage of operation, the attested records together with assessment of rent holding-wise are put to draft publication for a period of 60 days. Objections are received and decided by offering opportunities of being heard to all interested persons and maps and records, wherever necessary, corrected. The statute provides opportunities to the aggrieved persons to file appeal and revision before the competent authorities. Lastly, record-of-rights are finally published and extract of record-of-rights supplied to the land owners.

**Settlement of rent** is an important work during survey and settlement operations. Rent is fixed in accordance with the principles laid down under the Orissa Survey and Settlement Act, 1958 and Rules framed thereunder. For fixing rent the villages are first grouped into 3 classes (Class I, Class II and Class III) keeping in view situation of the village, communication and market facilities, depredation by wild animals and liability to vicissitudes of season. Lands are then classified with due regard to crop or crops grown on the land, nature of soil, situation of the land in the village and source of irrigation. They have thus been classified into 36 classifications, viz., Sarad (I, II & III), Sarad Dofasali (I, II & III), Sarad Jala (I, II & III), Taila (I, II & III), Biali, Biali Dofasali, Pal (I, II & III), Baje Fasal (I & II), Bagayat (I, II & III), Jalasaya (I & II), Dalua (I & II), Ghar-bari (I & II), Rayati land used for commercial purposes, miscellaneous land, Puratan Patita, and homesteads (rural, urban and semi-urban). Varying rates of rent have been fixed (approved by Government) for each such class of land for each group of villages for each Thana so far completed from rent settlement. The variation is chiefly due to the time-lag in fixation of rent in different areas. Rent on agricultural land is fixed taking into account average price of crop or crops normally grown on land, situation of the land and the nature of the soil and maximum rent assessed on land of similar quality and productivity in the state. Rent is linked with the net profit which a land-owner derives from the land. The lands used for any purpose other than agriculture including all kinds of homestead land both in urban and rural areas is fixed having regard to situation of the land, purpose for which it is used, communication and marketing facilities and market value of the land. A statement showing Sabik and Hal rent of the police-stations completed so far from settlement operation is given below :

Sl. No. (1)	Name of the police-station (2)	Sabik rent (3)	Hal rent (4)
		Rs.	Rs.
1	Raibania	84,636.38	3,49,833.00
2	Baleshwar Sadar	1,84,123.00	4,63,284.00
3	Baleshwar Town		
4	Nilagiri		
5	Berhampur	1,31,893.99	3,65,300.00
6	Tihiri	1,49,708.00	3,88,230.00

(Contd.)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
7	Bhograi	1,77,411.50	7,52,708.00
8	Baliapal	57,609.30	2,10,656.50
9	Soro	4,44,113.58	10,29,331.00
10	Remuna		
11	Khaira		
12	Bhadrak	6,64,422.00	17,25,673.00
13	Chandbali		
14	Dhamnagar		
15	Bhandaripokhari		
16	Bansada		
17	Similia	85,860.00	2,02,496.00
18	Bant		
19	Basudebpur		
20	Singla	67,449.68	3,20,720.36
21	Jaleshwar (R)	85,501.78	4,34,914.40
22	Jaleshwar (Town)		
		21,32,729.71	62,43,145.76

The increase is to the extent of 290 per cent which also takes into account fresh assessment of areas which were not assessed previously. But this has no practical implication on the raiyats as land revenue (rent) has been abolished since the 1st April 1967 except for the year 1976-77. Rent settled is notional but cess is assessed at 50 per cent of the "annual value of land" which is defined as rent fixed at the time of settlement.

There are 82 villages on the inter-state boundary, i.e. 27 villages of Raibania police-station, 18 villages of Jaleshwar police-station, 37 villages of Bhograi police-station which adjoin 90 villages of Midnapur district of West Bengal. Till December 1987 boundaries of 75 villages have been passed. Boundaries of the remaining 7 villages (3 villages of Bhograi police-station and 4 villages of Raibania police-station) are in the process of reconciliation. The discrepancy in the

boundary in Sahabajpur with the adjoining village Padima in Midnapur district is at a strategic point near Digha, a recently developed tourist spot in West Bengal.

In the Bay of Bengal there are five small islands known as Shortt's and Wheeler Island. They are situated roughly at a distance of 20 km. from Chandbali. These islands were surveyed during the last settlement and the total area was 277.60 acres. Meanwhile there has been substantial accretion to 3 of these Islands. Now the total area of these islands is 465.01 acres. These are occasionally used by fishermen who go to the deep sea for catching fish. Large-sized pillars have been embedded demarcating these islands. Each pillar bears the emblem of Ashok Chakra to establish the ownership of the Government of India.

Towns have been surveyed with great care. Each town has been divided into convenient units taking boundaries along roads, lanes and other natural boundaries. The rate of rent is quite substantial being 1/4th per cent of the market value in respect of lands used for commercial and industrial purposes. Baleshwar and Jaleshwar towns have been traversed by theodolite process.

#### CONSOLIDATION OF HOLDINGS

As in other coastal districts of Orissa land holdings in Baleshwar have been increasingly fragmented due to unrestricted sale, partition and successions, etc., over the years. Individual holdings lie widely scattered making their cultivation laborious and expensive. This has not only reduced the productivity of land but has made onfarm development impossible resulting in increasing impoverishment of the rural life. The law regarding consolidation of holdings and prevention of fragmentation of land which is called the "The Orissa Consolidation of Holdings and Prevention of Fragmentation of Land Act, 1972" came into force with effect from the 30th November 1972. The objective is not merely to consolidate the scattered holdings to compact blocks but also planning of the rural village to co-ordinate all developmental activities in the village by providing onfarm developments like field irrigation, access road to Chaka plots, reservation of lands for community needs like schools, play ground, hospital, veterinary centre, Panchayat Ghar and house-sites for Harijans, Adivasis, etc. The pre-consolidation work in the district started in the year 1974. The programme at present (as on 31st December 1987) covers 807 villages with 1,05,226 hectares. The Director of Consolidation with headquarters at Cuttack is the Head of Department for implementing consolidation programme in the state. In Baleshwar there are two Deputy Directors, one at Bhadrak and another at Baleshwar with supervising and appellate powers for conducting this work.

600 villages with 63,459 hectares have been completed from consolidation operation. As a result of this, scatteredness of the holdings have been reduced in the following manner:

No. of sample villages taken	Total area of sample villages in hectare	Total consoli-dation plots	Total No. of Chakas formed	Total No. of land-owners
24	4,891	23,574	8,339	5,995

The remaining 207 villages with 4,1767 hectares are pending in various stages of operation.

#### AGRICULTURAL CENSUS

The Agricultural Census, a comprehensive sample survey is being conducted once in every five years since 1970-71 in all the states and Union Territories of India with a view to studying the entire perspective of the agricultural panorama mainly on a few salient features, namely :

- (1) Number and area of operational holdings,
- (2) Land Utilisation,
- (3) Cropping pattern,
- (4) Irrigation and tenancy.

The findings in respect of Baleshwar district for the last agricultural census conducted in the year 1980 -81 is as follows:

Baleshwar district has got 4.61 lakh hectares of operated area belonging to 3.23 lakh of operational holdings the *per capita* holding size being 1.43 hectares (In the first Agricultural Census of 1970-71 the operated area was 5.91 lakh hectares belonging to 3.50 lakh operational holdings, the average size of each holding being 1.69 hectares). The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes have possessed 0.57 lakh holdings with operated area of 0.53 lakh hectares and 0.19 lakh holdings with operated area of 0.14 lakh hectares respectively. The



*per capita* holding size of the above two social groups is 0.93 hectares and 0.74 hectares respectively. The number and area of operational holdings by size belonging to different social groups is given below:

Sl. No.	Size class of operational holdings (hectare)	Category	Scheduled Castes	
			No. of O. H.*	Operated size
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Below 1.00	Marginal	38658	15364.03
2	1.00-2.00	Small	11255	14645.73
3	2.00-4.00	Semi-medium	5636	1444.37
4	4.00-10.00	Medium	1420	7479.52
5	10.00 & above	Large	114	1414.76
6	All sizes	..	57083	53348.41

Sl. No.	Size class of operational holdings (hectare)	Category	Scheduled Tribes	
			No. of O. H.	Operated size
(1)	(2)	(3)	(6)	(7)
1	Below 1.00	Marginal	13957	5905.71
2	1.00-2.00	Small	3189	4053.89
3	2.00-4.00	Semi-medium	1260	3046.63
4	4.00-10.00	Medium	140	688.66
5	10.00 & above	Large	..	..
6	All sizes	..	18546	13694.41

Sl. No.	Size class of operational holdings (hectare)	Category	Total	
			Incl. S. C. & S. T.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	No. of O. H.	Operated size
(1)	(2)	(3)	(8)	(9)
1	Below 1.00	Marginal	163551	74799.10
2	1.00-2.00	Small	79572	106189.24
3	2.00-4.00	Semi-medium	58832	152626.49
4	4.00-10.00	Medium	19453	105517.43
5	10.00 & above	Large	1662	22310.95
6	All sizes	..	323070	461443.21

\*O. H. means Operational Holding

It may be seen from the table that half of the operational holdings (general), 2/3rd operational holdings (Scheduled Castes) and 3/4th of operational holdings (Scheduled Tribes) are marginal.

Out of 3.23 lakhs of operational holdings of the district 3.06 (that is 94.65 per cent) are wholly owned and self-operated. Wholly irrigated holdings are 37,842 in number and the total operated area irrigated is 44,916 hectares. The number of partly irrigated holdings is 12,174 and their irrigated area is 10,987 hectares. The net irrigated area is 55,904 hectares which is about 13 per cent of the net area sown. Canal is the major source of irrigation and about 91.00 per cent of the net irrigated area is irrigated by canals. The gross cropped area is 4.9 lakh hectares and the gross irrigated area is 0.66 lakh hectares. The gross area under paddy which is the major crop of the district constitutes about 89.77 per cent of the gross cropped area.

### Mutation

Record-of-Rights called Khatian or Khata or Patta is the most useful and valuable document in possession of a land owner as it exhibits identity of his ownership, status under which he holds the land, extent and classification of the land, rent and cess payable, etc. This he requires very often for various purposes like getting loan from Government or financial institutions, dispute over landed property, establishing his identity and ownership in Court of Law, etc. It is, therefore, absolutely necessary that it should be kept up-to-date. Before abolition of the estates it was the responsibility of the landlords to mutate the names of the successor-in-interest of a tenant due to transfer, succession or partition, etc. Customarily 25 per cent of the consideration money was payable when a sale took place for entry of the name of the transferee in landlords records. But the Orissa Tenancy Act was amended in 1938 abolishing this fee and making it mandatory on the landlord to recognise the transfer on receipt of a copy of the notice of transfer from the Registering Officer specifying the names of the transferer and the transferee and the division of rent. On abolition of the estates the landlords handed over list of tenants from which they were collecting rent immediately before abolition (called Ekapadias) to the Tahasildars. Therefore, maintenance of the record-of-rights to keep them up-to-date (i.e., mutation work) became the most important work of the revenue administration. This process also got statutory recognition by prescribing a procedure for maintenance of record-of-rights in Chapter IV of the Orissa Survey and Settlement Rules. Detailed executive instructions were also provided for in the Mutation Manual. But somehow this most important item of work did not receive as much

attention as it ought to have in the hands of the Tahasildars and supervising officers. Fortunately for Baleshwar, Survey and Settlement operations took over the work of making the record-of-rights up-to-date from the year 1962 during which time the mutation work of the Tahasildars remained suspended. But after final publication of the record-of-rights in most of the villages mutation by Tahasildars was revived. Still 45,664 mutation cases were pending in the Courts of Tahasildars for disposal by 31st March 1986 where settlement proceedings have been completed. As stated earlier some 58,746 holdings have been recorded in Bebandobast (ବେବେନ୍ଦୋସ୍ତ) status as applications for disposal of cases for settlement of land under sections 6, 7, and 8 (3) of the Estates Abolition Act were pending for disposal by the Tahasildars at the time of preparation of draft record-of-rights. As a result 55,020 acres of land are in occupation of persons entitled to settlement which are escaping rent and cess with serious loss of revenue to Government.

#### **Rent/Cess/Nistar Cess**

As per Dalziel Settlement Report (1922—32) the settled rent in revisional settlement in the permanently settled areas was Rs. 1,52,239. In the temporarily settled areas including Khasmahals it was Rs. 15,95,744. In the revenue free estates it was Rs. 90,304 and in the sub-proprietary tenures it was Rs. 1,61,791. In Nilagiri as per 1917—22 Settlement Report it was Rs. 73,496 for the ex-state and Rs. 20,802 for the tenants of Thakuar Mahal. So the total settled rent for the district as per last Settlement Reports was Rs. 20,94,376. On vesting the words "Revenue" and "Rent" became synonymous. Rents were settled in respect of Khas possession (Nij-jote and Nij-chas) lands of the proprietors/ sub-proprietors and for personal Jagir lands on conferment of raiyati right under sections 6, 7 and 8 (3) of the O. E. A. Act. Wastelands were also settled under the Approved Lease Principles. So by the end of 1966-67 when land revenue was abolished with effect from 1st April 1967 the rent demand had substantially increased. Under the Orissa Land Revenue (Abolition) Act no raiyat or tenant is liable to pay land revenue in respect of any land held by him directly under Government provided such land was used for purposes of agriculture, horticulture or pisciculture or for purposes of any small scale industry located outside the limits of the municipality or Notified Area Council. Thus only homesteads and industries situated in urban areas are liable to pay land revenue. Land revenue was re-imposed in the year 1976-77 but was again abolished from the year 1977-78. On abolition of the land revenue the cess which was 25 per cent of the rent demand was increased to 50 per cent. New rent has been settled under O. S. S. Act in respect of 3,754 villages which took effect at different periods beginning from the year 1967-68.

According to the report of the Settlement Officer against the existing rent of Rs. 21,23,729 in 3,305 villages completed from rent settlement under his organization (excluding villages transferred to consolidation) the settled rent was Rs. 62,43,145 giving an increase of 192.75 per cent over the existing rent.

Besides the cess payable under the Orissa Cess Act, 1962 the tenants of Nilagiri ex-state also pay another cess called "Nistar Cess" or forest cess. It is a commutation fee paid annually by the inhabitants of an ex-state area for free use, for use at concessional rate of timber and other forest produce from the Khesra or B-Class reserved forests for their own use and not for sale or barter. In Nilagiri, Nistar cess was levied at 1/2 annas per 'Man' (2/3 acre) of land on persons holding rent-free lands and one anna per Man by raiyats. They were entitled to take trees of species not declared reserved free for their own use from Khesra forests. This cess continued to be levied after merger. The Demand/Collection and Balance (D. C. B.) position of land revenue (rent), cess and Nistar cess of the district during the five years from 1981-82 to 1984-85 is given in Appendix I of this Chapter.

### **Irrigation Revenue**

In the matter of supply of water for irrigation and assessment of water rates the Bengal Irrigation Act, 1876 was followed in Balleshwar. The first canal built in the district was known as Churaman or Rickets canal in the year 1826 and the Orissa Coast Canal which was opened for traffic in 1885 were meant for navigation and not for irrigation. Both canals fell into disrepair and did not serve the purpose for which they were constructed. The High Level Canal which was taken up in 1867 as a famine relief measure by the East India Irrigation and Canal Company was designed to provide navigable trade between Cuttack and Calcutta and also to irrigate the country through which it passed. This great scheme was later abandoned and only three reaches were completed—Reaches I and II being in Cuttack district, Reach No. III lying between Akhuapada and Bhadrak has a length of 30.5 km. in Balleshwar district. This was completed in 1891 at a cost of Rs. 9,87,000 including the cost of seven distributaries of 109 km. It was proposed to extend the canal up to Balleshwar but this project was abandoned as it was found that there were no rivers of sufficient size to afford adequate supply of water to the canal. It was fed from the river Baitarani at Akhuapada and was available both for irrigation and traffic. This was the only irrigation system in the district till the year 1981-82 when Salandi Project was completed. In the beginning of 20th century it theoretically commanded an area of 57,500 acres (23,270 hectares) of which 44,000 acres (17,806

hectares) could actually be irrigated out of which about 42,000 acres (16,997 hectares) were under rice. But the area actually irrigated was much less and it varied from year to year depending upon the willingness of the raiyats to apply for irrigation because at that time they did not consider canal irrigation so valuable as to make it worth while to pay anything but a small water rate or to have all their fields irrigated. So the demand for it was not ordinarily very great. In this connection O' Malley's observation in the district gazetteer of Balasore (1907) makes interesting reading.

"The present state of affairs is very different from that prevailing before the introduction of the canal system. No provision existed against the calamities caused by want of rain. The tanks and other receptacles of local drainage were not used for irrigation and the rivers were allowed to carry their waters unused to the sea. The people generally were reluctant to resort to artificial irrigation and as an instance of this feeling mention may be made of the course of events in 1869 in pargana Randhiya-orgara which suffered severely from want of rain in that year. The river Salandi runs through the centre of this tract and when the drought made itself felt and the people were praying for help the Collector asked them why they did not use the river water as a means of irrigation. They only replied that it was not the custom, that the proprietors of lands on the river's banks would object to channels being cut through their lands for the purpose of carrying water to fields further inland; that it would be very hard work; that it would not pay; and that river water was not so fertilizing as that which came from heaven". At all events the river water was not used and the crops perished in consequence".

This irrigation system was under the control of the Superintending Engineer, Orissa Circle who was assisted by the Executive Engineer-in-charge of Akhuapada-Jajpur Division. A special establishment was entertained for the assessment and collection of revenue and for this purpose there was a revenue division in charge of a Special Deputy Collector for assessing and collecting water rates under the orders of the Superintending Engineer. Under the Bengal Irrigation Act levy of water rate was not compulsory. The irrigated areas was divided into blocks and the lease of all the lands in each block being so arranged as to lapse in the same year. Water was supplied to the cultivators on application on a prescribed form, the area being divided into three seasons, the hot weather from March to June, Khariff from 16th June to end of October and Rabi season from November to end of March. A leave or permit granted for the season was in force for that particular period. Besides these seasonal leases there was also the system of long term leases up to 10 years granted at somewhat reduced rate for supply of water from 16th June to 31st March

each year. These long term leases were only granted for compact blocks defined by well-marked boundaries of such a nature that the leased lands could be clearly distinguished from the adjoining unleased lands and also so situated that the unleased lands could not be ordinarily irrigated by water supplied for the leased lands included in the Block. These boundaries were mentioned in the application for the lease. After approval of the lease by the Executive Engineer a detailed measurement of each cultivator's holding was made. Thereafter the Executive Engineer issued the permit. Fields which could not be ordinarily irrigated or for which water was not ordinarily required could be excluded from the block at the discretion of the Executive Engineer. In the long term leases water rates were charged for the area measured and accepted by the cultivators whether water was used or not. But in Rabi area and in hot weather leases water was supplied on application and water rates were levied on the actual area irrigated. The rate initially was Rs. 1-8-0 per acre but it was raised to Rs. 1-12-0 in 1902-03. From 1912 the rate of water for long term leases on Khariff season was Rs. 2-0-0 per acre but in 1920 it was increased to Rs. 2-8-0 and in 1922 to Rs. 3-0-0. For Dhoya or water-logged lands the rate was lower, i.e., Rs. 0-10-0 in 1912 to Rs. 1-8-0 in 1920 and Rs. 2-0-0 in 1922. But this rate was again introduced in 1931 as the raiyats considered the existing rates to be high and did not come forward to sign agreement for supply of water and so the area under irrigation was reduced. For the high level canal range-III it was Rs. 2-8-0 and Rs. 1-8-0 respectively. The rate for seasonal leased lands for the Khariff season and also for provisional lease the rate was reduced in 1931 from Rs. 4-8-0 to Rs. 4-0-0. The rate for Rabi water was similarly reduced from Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 2-0-0. For sugarcane there was a special rate i.e., Rs. 7-8-0 for the period of cultivation, Rs. 8-0-0 for the period from 1st April to 16th June and Rs. 1-5-0 for single irrigation. Higher rates were charged for single seasoned leases or for water taken between the 1st April and 16th June. The total mileage of the canals had not increased till 1932 although there was some increase in the mileage of distributaries. But the extent of area irrigated in 1930 from the high level canal range No. III was reduced to 23,822 acres (9,640 hectares) due to increase in irrigation rates in 1922 as people did not think it profitable to utilise canal water by paying these water rates. The receipt hardly covered the working expenses let alone any return on investment.

The Orissa Irrigation Act 1959 came into force in the district on the 1st June 1963. It repealed the Bengal Irrigation Act, 1876. This Act provided for levy of compulsory basic water rate for irrigation of the staple cereal crop and optional water rates (or simply water rate) for supply of water for any crop other

than staple cereal crop. Special rates are prescribed for non-agricultural use of water from irrigation works. Compulsory basic water rate was abolished in the year 1968-69 making it optional for the owners and occupiers of lands to use water from any irrigation works as before. If they desired to do so they were to make applications to the Tahasildar in the prescribed forms. Tahasildars were notified as Irrigation Officers. The regulation of water to fields, assessment of water rate and cess and collection thereof is the responsibility of the Revenue organisation through the normal revenue agency of Collector, S. D. O. and the Tahasildar. During this period the annual demand of water rate fell sharply. The compulsory water rate was therefore re-imposed in the year 1974-75. Initially the compulsory basic water rate for Orissa was very low when compared with other states and the total irrigation revenue was not sufficient to cover the cost of maintenance of irrigation works. The Government therefore enhanced the basic water rates by 100 per cent and water rate by 50 per cent which was made effective from the 24th September 1981. The rates of compulsory basic water rate for staple cereal crop as now applicable to different classes of irrigation works are as follows:

Classes	Period of supply	Depth of supply to be guaranteed	Rate per acre
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1st Class	June to November	28"	Rs. 16.00
2nd Class	July to November	23"	Rs. 12.00
3rd Class	July to October	18"	Rs. 8.00
4th Class	July to October	9"	Rs. 4.00

Dalua crop carries a water rate of Rs. 36.00 per acre, sugarcane Rs. 40 per acre, wheat Rs. 13.00 per acre and potato Rs. 22.50 per acre. Mung carries the lowest water rate of Rs. 2.50 and other pulses Rs. 4.50. There are thus varying water rates for different crops. Even with this increase in compulsory basic water rate and water rate which is still lower than those in some other states like Uttar Pradesh and Punjab the receipts do not cover the working expenses.

Certified and assessed area of major and minor irrigation works in the district are as follows :

(There are no medium irrigation works in the district)

Certified Ayacut area in acres		Assessed Ayacut area in acres
Major	1,70,802	1,41,801
Minor	10,543	7,784

The discrepancy between the certified area and the assessed area is partly due to non-assessment in the field by the revenue agencies and partly due to over-certification by the Engineering agencies. The current annual demand of irrigation charges for the assessed area as on the 1st April 1986 is as follows :

1. Compulsory basic water rate ..	Rs. 20,23,281
2. Water rate (for Rabi cultivation) (fluctuating).	Rs. 7,06,555
Total ..	<hr/> Rs. 27,29,836 <hr/>

The D. C. B. position for water rates as on the 1st April 1986 is given below :

Demand	Collection	Balance
74,69,797	14,39,169	60,30,628

#### REVENUE ORGANISATION

The Collector is the head of the Revenue administration in the district. There is hardly any Central or State legislation which does not embrace the scope of action of the Collector. Although after independence the emphasis on the role of the Collector has been shifted from collection of revenue to development, the designation of the Collector continues till today. In the subdivision the Subdivisional Officer\* is the counterpart of the Collector. Like Collector he has both the statutory and administrative functions. He is assisted by one or more Deputy Collectors according to workload in the subdivision. The Second Officer is generally designated as the Revenue Officer. The subdivision was the lowest revenue territorial unit till the abolition of the zamindaries. On abolition, the estates were formed into Anchals as envisaged in the Orissa

\*Now designated as Sub-Collector.



Estates Abolition Act. Each Anchal was placed in charge of an Anchal Adhikari who was either a Deputy or a Sub-Deputy Collector. The O. E. A. Act originally envisaged consisting of local authorities called Anchal Sasan consisting of an Anchal Sabha and an Anchal Adhikari. On subsequent thought Government decided not to enforce this provision of Act regarding constitution of local authority. The O. E. A. (Amendment) Act, 1957 provided that the Anchal will be managed according to the laws, rules and regulations for the time being in force for management of Government estates. The Collectors were placed in direct charge of the administration of Anchal subject to control of the Board of Revenue. To bring uniformity in the matter of territorial units and their nomenclature throughout the state, the Orissa Revenue Administration (Units) Act, 1963 was passed which provided that the units for purpose of revenue administration throughout the state shall be the Revenue Division, District, Subdivision and Tahasil. The subdivision is divided into as many Tahasils as the State Government may deem fit provided that the State Government may also declare the whole area of a subdivision to be a Tahasil. Therefore we will find that the entire Nilagiri subdivision has been constituted into one Tahasil. The Tahasil system of administration was introduced in 1963. Each Tahasil is headed by a Tahasildar who is assisted by one or more Additional Tahasildars according to workload. For convenience of revenue and land administration each Tahasil is divided into a number of Revenue Inspector Circles. The number of subdivisions, Tahasils and R. I. Circles in the district is given below :

Name of the Subdivision	Name of the Tahasil	No. of R. I. Circles
1. Baleshwar	1. Baleshwar	77
	2. Banta	
	3. Soro	
	4. Jaleshwar	
2. Bhadrak	1. Bhadrak	73
	2. Dhamnagar	
	3. Tihiri	
	4. Basudebpur	
	5. Chandbali	
3. Nilagiri	1. Nilagiri	7

The Revenue Inspectors are assisted by revenue Moharirs for collection work and by a peon for helping him in miscellaneous duties. They are invariably survey trained persons but where the

workload is heavy they are assisted by one or more survey knowing Amins to help them in identification and subdivisions of plots, correction of record-of-rights and in miscellaneous enquiries, etc. For assessment of compulsory basic water rates and water rates special Amins are appointed under the Tahasildars. For correction of record-of-rights in the Tahasil office two Amins are also appointed. At present there are 44 Amins, 156 Moharirs and 157 Revenue Inspectors in the district. To supervise the Revenue Inspectors, there are 19 Revenue Supervisors working under the Tahasildars.

The Tahasildar is the representative of the State Government so far as land administration in the Tahasil is concerned. He is the custodian of Government land in the Tahasil and it is his duty to see that government lands are not encroached upon and steps are taken for removal of encroachments, if any. He is also the authority to deal with all revenue cases under various Acts such as,

- (1) Orissa Land Reforms Act
- (2) Orissa Prevention of Land Encroachment Act
- (3) Orissa Public Demands Recovery Act
- (4) Orissa Estates Abolition Act
- (5) Mutation cases under Orissa Survey and Settlement Act
- (6) Lease cases under the Government Land Settlement Act
- (7) Orissa Bhoodan Yagna Act
- (8) Regulation 2 of 1956
- (9) Orissa Irrigation Act

Besides he deals with a large number of revenue miscellaneous cases for issue of income certificates, solvency certificates, caste certificates, succession certificates, etc. He is responsible for collection of land revenue, irrigation revenue and miscellaneous revenue, etc. Besides doing the normal revenue work, he is required to do a lot of non-revenue work in his Tahasil. Apart from pre-occupations with special time-bound programmes like census, agricultural census, election and relief operations during flood, drought and other natural calamities his services are requisitioned whenever a special programme or special item of work has to be taken up in his area regardless of his pre-occupations with normal revenue work. He is also to attend a number of meetings in subdivision or district headquarters. He represents the Collector in a number of site selection and other such meetings and has to do a lot of miscellaneous work during

visits of V. I. Ps. In fact the Tahasildar has become an all-purpose officer. Heavy pendency of revenue cases in Tahasils is largely attributable to the engagement of the Tahasildar in non-revenue items of work. Similar is the case with regard to Revenue Inspectors.

#### ADMINISTRATION OF OTHER SOURCES OF REVENUE

There are other sources from which the Central Government and the State Government collect revenue in the district. The Central revenue is realised from income-tax, central excise, central sales tax, etc. The State Government collects stamp revenue, sales tax, motor vehicle tax, entertainment tax, State excise, etc.

#### Central Income-tax

In 1970 one Income-tax Circle was created for the district with headquarters at Baleshwar. The Baleshwar Circle is managed by an Income-tax Officer who looks after the assessment work of the district.

The table below shows the demand, collection and balance figures of income-tax during the years 1981-82 to 1985-86.

( Rupees in thousands )

Assessment year	Demand	Collection	Balance arrear
1981-82	3574	2724	850
1982-83	2873	1768	1105
1983-84	3179	2115	1064
1984-85	3667	2524	1143
1985-86	2458	1432	1024

#### Central Excise

There are two Range Offices at Baleshwar and Bhadrak to look after collection of duties and other administrative works associated with it in the district.

The collection figures of Central Excise department for five years 1981-82 to 1985-86 are furnished below :

( Rupees in thousands )

1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
2364	2057	4537	4778	8099

### Central Sales Tax

Central Sales Tax is collected by State Commercial Tax Department. The collection figures of Central Sales Tax from 1980-81 to 1984-85 are given below:

Year		Rupees in lakhs
1980-81	..	17.85
1981-82	..	24.34
1982-83	..	19.11
1983-84	..	22.54
1984-85	..	28.23

### State Excise

The Superintendent of Excise, Baleshwar, looks after the excise administration of the district under the District Collector. He supervises the work of his subordinate, i.e., Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of Excise. The table below shows the collection of State Excise revenue of the district for the last five years ending 1985-86.

Year		Collection in rupees
1981-82	..	37,96,372.00
1982-83	..	38,69,833.00
1983-84	..	43,22,955.00
1984-85	..	59,54,524.00
1985-86	..	57,92,149.00

### Commercial Tax

The district has been divided into two Commercial Tax Circles, viz., Baleshwar I with headquarters at Baleshwar and Baleshwar-II with headquarters at Bhadrak. Each of the circles is in charge of a Commercial Tax Officer who is assisted by a number of Additional Commercial Tax Officers. The function of the Commercial Tax Department in the district is to assess and collect sales tax, agricultural income-tax and entertainment tax.

The statement below shows the collection figures of different state taxes by Commercial Tax Department from 1980-81 to 1984-85.

Year	( Rupees in lakhs )	
	O. S. T.	C. S. T.
1980-81 ..	149.06	28.08
1981-82 ..	182.08	29.18
1982-83 ..	195.13	29.11
1983-84 ..	239.22	30.09
1984-85 ...	231.29	33.29

### Motor Vehicle Tax and Passenger Tax

Regional Transport Officer is the controlling officer who looks after management of Regional Transport Organisation in the district and collection of revenue from the vehicle owners.

The collection figures of motor vehicle tax and passenger tax for the years 1982-83 to 1984-85 are given below :

Year	Collection in Rupees	
	M. V. Tax	P. Tax
1982-83 ..	56,59,042.00	13,30,251.76
1983-84 ..	57,48,643.00	16,23,677.36
1984-85 ..	70,82,446.51	10,77,810.00

### Stamp Revenue

Revenue is also collected from sale proceeds of stamps (judicial and non-judicial) in the district.

The table below shows the revenue earned in the district from 1982-83 to 1986-87.

( Figures in rupees )

Year	Special Adhesive Stamp	Revenue stamp	Court-fees stamp
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1982-83	54,425.20	3,83,900.00	9,85,010.75
1983-84	85,365.40	4,50,385.00	12,85,328.55
1984-85	1,16,560.90	3,20,200.00	12,26,338.35
1985-86	1,35,217.00	3,93,650.00	11,70,422.24
1986-87	1,45,110.35	4,68,452.00	16,84,044.50

Year	Stamp for copy	Non-judicial (other impressed) stamp
(1)	(5)	(6)
1982-83	24,849.00	70,80,753.50
1983-84	15,691.50	85,80,090.20
1984-85	26,418.85	79,81,785.75
1985-86	16,420.25	91,25,277.55
1986-87	6,089.00	101,66,805.45

### Registration

The district is divided into sixteen sub-districts for the purpose of registration. Additional District Magistrate (general) functions as the District Registrar of the district. The Member, Board of Revenue is the appointing authority for Sub-Registrars. District Registrar is the controlling authority in respect of registration work in the district.

The statement below shows the income from registrations in the district from 1982-83 to 1986-87.

Year	Income ( in rupees )
1982-83	3,38,694.00
1983-84	4,70,029.00
1984-85	5,96,907.00
1985-86	6,99,746.00
1986-87	7,80,953.00

## APPENDIX I

Demand, Collection and Balance Statement of the district on Land Revenue, Cess and Nistar Cess for the five years 1980-81 to 1984-85.

Year	Item of Revenue	Demand		
		Arrear	Current	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1980-81	Land Revenue ..	10,05,255	44,654	10,49,909
	Cess ..	23,58,958	21,53,660	45,12,618
	Nistar Cess ..	4,574	6,750	11,324
1981-82	Land Revenue ..	8,02,082	46,008	8,48,090
	Cess ..	21,88,393	21,82,811	43,81,204
	Nistar Cess ..	4,198	6,782	10,980
1982-83	Land Revenue ..	7,26,725	55,960	7,82,685
	Cess ..	24,70,287	22,24,529	46,94,816
	Nistar Cess ..	5,394	6,813	12,207
1983-84	Land Revenue ..	6,68,511	76,212	7,44,723
	Cess ..	30,75,184	23,20,232	53,95,416
	Nistar Cess ..	6,021	6,834	12,855
1984-85	Land Revenue ..	5,96,142	95,767	6,91,909
	Cess ..	26,54,689	24,40,937	50,95,626
	Nistar Cess ..	4,591	6,844	11,435

(Contd.)

Year	Item of Revenue	Collection		
		Arrear	Current	Total
(1)	(2)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1980-81	Land Revenue ..	3,13,273	30,098	3,43,371
	Cess ..	10,92,805	14,05,561	24,98,366
	Nistar Cess ..	2,507	4,816	7,323
1981-82	Land Revenue ..	1,80,279	29,022	2,09,301
	Cess ..	8,21,956	12,66,146	20,88,102
	Nistar Cess ..	1,834	3,972	5,806
1982-83	Land Revenue ..	1,36,766	34,203	1,70,969
	Cess ..	6,92,257	11,22,757	18,15,014
	Nistar Cess ..	2,253	4,062	6,315
1983-84	Land Revenue ..	1,71,256	60,216	2,31,472
	Cess ..	12,88,629	14,98,143	27,86,772
	Nistar Cess ..	3,023	5,171	8,374
1984-85	Land Revenue ..	1,39,257	70,989	2,10,246
	Cess ..	10,32,500	14,65,267	24,97,767
	Nistar Cess ..	2,348	5,049	7,397

(Contd.)



Year	Item of Revenue	Balance		
		Arrear	Current	Total
(1)	(2)	(9)	(10)	(11)
1980-81	Land Revenue..	6,91,982	14,556	7,06,538
	Cess ..	12,66,153	7,48,099	20,18,252
	Nistar Cess ..	2,067	1,934	4,001
1981-82	Land Revenue..	6,21,803	16,986	6,38,789
	Cess ..	13,66,437	9,26,665	22,93,102
	Nistar Cess ..	2,364	2,810	5,174
1982-83	Land Revenue..	5,89,959	21,757	6,11,716
	Cess ..	17,78,030	11,01,772	28,79,802
	Nistar Cess ..	3,141	2,751	5,892
1983-84	Land Revenue..	4,97,255	15,996	5,13,251
	Cess ..	17,86,555	8,22,089	26,08,644
	Nistar Cess ..	2,818	1,663	4,481
1984-85	Land Revenue..	4,56,885	24,778	4,81,663
	Cess ..	16,22,189	9,75,670	25,97,859
	Nistar Cess ..	2,243	1,795	4,038

(Concld.)

## CHAPTER XII

### LAW AND ORDER, AND JUSTICE

#### INCIDENCE OF CRIME

Incidence of crime in the district appears to be normal. But at times, the police are hard pressed to maintain law and order. It is mainly due to the geographical location of the district. The district of Midnapur in West Bengal forms the border of northern Baleshwar. This affords ample opportunities to outside criminals to commit crime in these areas and make good their escape to West Bengal by train or by road before it comes to the notice of the police.

The first noticeable gang dacoity committed in the district was in 1930 in which 8 Punjabis including a notorious convict and the leader of the gang were involved. Before that, organised crimes by professional criminals was almost unknown and had been confined to occasional dragging and robbing of pilgrims on the Jagannath Road (now National Highway No. 5). Murders and dacoity were committed rarely and occurred mostly as a result of factions, land disputes and love intrigue. But there was a high rate of suicidal cases especially among women. There arose a communal disturbance in the district in the year 1926 though such type of disturbances were quite uncommon.

From 1936 to 1950, serious offences against persons and property or against property only varied between 100 and 510 and minor offences like theft, etc., varied between 450 to 800.

The statement given below indicates the number of various offences committed in 1936, 1942, 1945 and 1950.

Nature of offences						
Year	Dacoity	Robbery	Serious mischief and cognate offences	Mischief by killing, poisoning or maiming by animals	Larking house trespass or house breaking, etc.	Minor offences including theft, etc.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1936	2	3	28	2	98	687
1942	5	11	13	3	301	483
1945	6	17	17	1	406	718
1950	15	15	23	7	420	791

There was an alarming increase in crime especially dacoity in 1952 when a large gang consisting of as many as 30 criminals of West Bengal and Orissa responsible for committing about 20

dacoities was apprehended and a case popularly known as Gang case under section 400 of Indian Penal Code was launched against them. Varying sentences were passed on them by the trial court.

In 1954, criminals from West Bengal on the border were active in the district. While committing offences they used crackers and crude bombs. During the same year on one night the bungalows of the Civil Surgeon and Subdivisional Magistrate situated in the town of Baleshwar were broken out and the valuables removed.

In the year 1955, two cases of gang dacoities involving 62 criminals were reported. All the criminals of the gang were sent up for trial.

In 1959, three cases of dacoity and two cases of robbery were brought to the notice of the police. Hand made bombs and crackers were used there by the criminals.

The years 1959 and 1962 recorded increase of crimes of dacoities in the district which were due to economic reasons resulting from partial failure of crops and rise in price of the essential commodities. In 1961 alone, 34 cases of dacoities and 44 cases of robberies were reported from different places of the district. Thirty of the dacoits were professionals and the other four were technical.

Total number of cognizable crimes reported to the police during 1975-1979 varied between 2,849 and 3,073. Most of the cases are burglary and theft. Rioting is also a common form of crime.

As mentioned earlier many of the dacoities and robberies were committed by the criminals from outside the state. They, while committing crime, use deadly weapons. The most disturbed area in the district is the Bhograi police-station limits. The bordering area of the police-stations like Jaleshwar and Raibania are also greatly affected by such criminals. Regular patrolling by police both from Orissa and West Bengal has helped to reduce the number of such crimes in these areas.

The district is politically conscious. Several miscellaneous cases like rioting cases under sections 324, 325 and 337 of the Indian Penal Code are normally reported due to party friction, for village disputes and the student unrest.

Copper wire theft which was rampant for sometime in the district has now come under control after the introduction of regular patrol by the police.

It is evident from the available statistics relating to the nature of crimes committed in the district, burglary and theft are the chief forms of crimes. Dacoities and robberies are also usual forms of crime.

Murders are not so common. Such crimes sometimes occur resulting from petty matter, land dispute or love intrigue.

Rioting and formation of 'unlawful assemblies' constitute important form of crime involving a number of persons.

The statement given below indicates the number of different types of crime committed in the district during the period from 1975 to 1985.

Nature of crime (1)	Year					
	1975 (2)	1976 (3)	1977 (4)	1978 (5)	1979 (6)	1980 (7)
Murder ..	13	14	16	13	10	20
Culpable homicide not amounting to murder ..	..	..	1	2	..	2
Rioting ..	70	85	102	132	169	270
Kidnapping ..	4	8	6	8	12	10
Abduction ..	12	7	11	..	1	..
Dacoity ..	60	25	16	46	37	48
Robbery ...	37	28	23	30	33	40
Burglary ..	893	728	598	641	567	668
Cheating ..	21	15	74	31	15	23
Breach of trust ...	19	25	4	27	25	16
Theft ..	877	732	668	581	757	942

Nature of Crime (1)	Year				
	1981 (8)	1982 (9)	1983 (10)	1984 (11)	1985 (12)
Murder ..	21	14	7	20	24
Culpable homicide not amounting to murder ..	10	14	5	3	2
Rioting ..	253	238	206	199	174
Kidnapping ...	20	16	6	13	14
Abduction ..	..	8	2	2	..
Dacoity ..	34	35	47	17	22
Robbery ..	43	34	46	33	40
Burglary ..	415	387	396	317	329
Cheating ..	11	18	20	9	12
Breach of trust ..	35	19	18	12	18
Theft ..	711	638	632	556	607

**POLICE****History of Police Organisation**

In accordance with Regulation IV, 1804 and Regulation XIII, 1805, four Thanas (police-stations) were established in the district on the 1st May, 1806 with jurisdiction over a number of neighbouring villages.

Police-station		Number of villages
Basta	..	551
Baleshwar	..	536
Soro	...	622
Bhadrak	..	949

Later on, one more Thana was established at Chudamani and special police arrangement was made for Baleshwar town. In each Thana there was one Daroga with a monthly salary of Rs. 25. He was helped by one Moharir who was getting Rs. 10 per month. Under the Daroga there was one Jamadar on Rs. 8 per month, and 10 Burkanadazes each on Rs. 4 per month. A monthly expenditure of Rs. 108 was incurred then for the police arrangements at Baleshwar town.

The Magistrate was the controlling officer of the police but in fact the Daroga enjoyed absolute power as the Magistrate had no authority to punish the Daroga directly. The Daroga was punished only by the Nizamat Adalat. The system of police thus introduced by the British tended to be irresponsible and tyrannical and the Darogas and Jamadars being practically unchecked indulged in corruption and deliberate atrocities.

In 1860, the Government of India seriously took up the question of police reforms in the whole of British India and appointed a Commission to Enquiry into the working of police and to recommend measures for increasing the efficiency and reducing the expenditure on police administration. The Commission worked for about a month and submitted its report. In accordance with the recommendation of the said Commission, the Government of Bengal sanctioned a civil police force for the district comprising a Superintendent of Police and his subordinates.

In 1906, the district was divided into 9 Thanas or Police Circles, viz., Balেশ্বর, Baliapal, Basta, Jaleshwar and Soro in the Balেশ্বর subdivision and Bhadrak, Basudebpur, Chandbali and Dhamnagar in the Bhadrak subdivision. There were also 9 independent outposts in the Balেশ্বর subdivision, viz., Remuna under Balেশ্বর Thana, Bhograi and Panchapalli under Baliapal, Rajghat and Singla under Basta, Nampo under Jaleshwar and Anantapur, Khaira and Simila under Soro; and two in the subdivision of Bhadrak, viz., Banta under Bhadrak and Akhuapada under Dhamnagar. The regular police force in the district in 1905 consisted of one District Superintendent of Police, 4 Inspectors, 30 Sub-Inspectors, 29 Head Constables and 330 Constables, and there was one policeman to every 15.2 sq. km. (5.2 square miles) and for a population of 2,718. In Balেশ্বর town there was a small body of town-police consisting of two Head Constables, four Constables, four Dafadars and twenty-six Town Chowkidars. The Railway Police Force included two Head Constables and five Constables. The Rural Police Force was composed of 1,54 Chowkidars and 140 Dafadars. For the administration of the village police system, the district was divided into 140 unions. Each Chowkidar was receiving a salary of Rs. 4 per month

The sanctioned strength of police force has subsequently increased. The statement given below shows the staff position of the district police force in 1915, 1925, 1935, 1945 and 1955:—

Year	S. P.	D.S.P.	Ins- pector	Sergeant Major	Sub- Ins- pector	Sergeant
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1915 ..	1	..	5	..	37	..
1925 ..	1	..	5	..	34	..
1935 ..	1	..	4	1	30	..
1945 ...	1	1	4	1	33	..
1955 ..	1	1	5	1	45	1

Year		Assistant Sub-Ins- pector	Havildar Major	Havildar	Cons- table	Chow- kidar
(1)		(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
1915	..	..	..	..	395	1,555
1925	..	..	..	..	369	1,705
1935	..	27	..	17	325	1,705
1945	..	28	..	16	327	1,707
1955	..	43	2	26	530	1,662

The present staff position of the district organisation consists of one Superintendent of Police, who is the head of the organisation in district level, one Additional Superintendent of Police, five Deputy Superintendent of Police, 14 Inspectors including Reserve Inspector, 3 sergeants, 92 Sub-Inspectors, 101 Assistant Sub-Inspectors, 2 Havildar Majors, 93 Havildars, 982 Constables and 1,216 Grama Rakhis.

The police establishment in the district comes under the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Eastern Circle, Baleshwar. For administrative convenience the district has been divided into seven police circles including Bhadrak police-station which remains in-charge of an Inspector of Police. Each circle is under one Inspector. 27 police-stations are each under one Sub-Inspector. There are 32 outposts including temporary outposts. The outposts are being maintained by Sub-Inspectors or Assistant Sub-Inspectors and the temporary outposts by Assistant Sub-Inspectors or Havildars. A list of the police circles, police-stations, outposts and temporary outposts is given in Appendix I.

### Ordinary Reserve

The ordinary Reserve Police is maintained at police-stations and outposts. Maintenance of law and order in their respective area is the chief function of this force. They perform night patrol

in towns and villages and keep watchful eyes on the coming in and going out of strangers in the local areas. The staff also proceed to the spots where any crime dacoity, burglary, theft, accidents, etc. is reported. The present staff position of the Ordinary Reserve in the district includes one Superintendent of Police, one Additional Superintendent of Police, five Deputy Superintendent of Police, fourteen Inspectors, eighty-two Sub-Inspectors, one hundred and three Assistant Sub-Inspectors, ninety-two Head Constables and nine hundred and eighty-two constables (including both permanent and temporary).

### **Armed Reserve**

The strength of the Armed Police Reserve (permanent and temporary) consists of one Reserve Inspector, two Sergeants, three Drill Sub-Inspectors, two Havildar Majors, fifty-three Havildars, eighteen Naiks, thirteen Lance Naiks, and three hundred and forty Constables. The Armed Reserve provides necessary help to the Ordinary Reserve when the latter fails to tackle with the situation. Maintenance of internal security and restoration of law and order; escort for police arms and ammunition and the prisoners; safe guarding of the treasury and banks and other vital institutions are the main functions of the staff. They also help public during the time of natural calamities. They, too, are kept at important places as striking force to meet emergency duties.

### **Court staff**

Mainly for prosecution of police cases and maintenance of Malkhans, police staff have been posted at the courts at Baleshwar, Nilagiri, Bhadrak and Jaleshwar. The court staff at the Sadar consists of one Inspector, five Sub-Inspectors, three Assistant Sub-Inspectors, and twelve Constables. The staff position at the Nilagiri court is one Sub-Inspector, one Assistant Sub-Inspector and four Constables. Three Sub-Inspectors, two Assistant Sub-Inspectors and nine Constables are posted at the Bhadrak court. The court staff at Jaleshwar comprise one Sub-Inspector, one Assistant Sub-Inspector and five Constables.

### **Home Guard**

Home Guard is a voluntary organisation introduced in the year 1962 at the time of Chinese aggression to India to train civilians in police duties, to meet emergencies and render



necessary help to the police when required. There were three Havildars and 3 Naiks under the control of a Sergeant in the district on honorary basis. Now the strength of the organisation has been increased and it is formed with one Assistant Commandant, one Reserve Inspector, one Sergeant, one Drill Sub-Inspector, six Havildars, four Naiks and one Assistant Driver. The Home Guards are of two types, i.e., Rural Home Guards and Urban Home Guards. They are put under 3-year training in three phases, viz., Basic, Refreshers and Advance Course Training. During Training the Urban Home Guards are being paid training and parade allowance at the rate of Rs.3.50 each for attending parade and Rs. 2/- per month towards washing charges. The Rural Home Guards are being paid Rs.6.00 each towards messing charges per day, and Rs. 1.50 per day as pocket allowance and Rs. 2.00 each towards washing charges per month. After training they are being utilised for various purposes such as crowd control, traffic guard, maintenance of law and order and internal security and guarding of vital installations. Besides, they are deputed for night patrol duty and anti-dacoity patrol duty with the police force as and when necessary. The present sanctioned strength of the organisation is 550 Urban Home Guards (including 46 Women Home Guards) and 543 Rural Home Guards.

### Wireless

Four Wireless stations known as H. F. Stations are located at Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Baliapal, and Jaleshwar. The H.F. Station at Baleshwar established on the 13th January, 1949 is the oldest in the district. The H. F. station at Bhadrak started functioning since the 9th March, 1964. The staff pattern in these stations are one Sub-Inspector, six Assistant Sub-Inspectors and one Constable in Baleshwar H. F. Station; and one Sub-Inspector and 3 Assistant Sub-Inspectors in Bhadrak H. F. station; one Sub-Inspector and two Assistant Sub-Inspectors in Baliapal H.F. Station and 2 Assistant Sub-Inspectors in Jaleshwar H. F. Station. Besides, 26 V. H. F. stations are also functioning in the district. No special staff has been recruited for the purpose. The existing staff of the respective police stations manage the work in addition to their normal duties. The function of these stations is mainly to receive and transmit messages relating to law and order situation, crime and criminal position, situations, such as, natural calamities, and other disturbances like communal, anti-social, political, etc., for immediate attention and action.

### **Pigeon Service**

Three pigeon lofts functioning in the district are located at the district headquarters Baleshwar, Basta and Chandbali, to link the communication with the interior police posts. There are 37 pigeons in the loft at Baleshwar, 20 in Basta and 10 in Chandbali. Four Constables have been engaged for maintaining the lofts and looking after the pigeons.

### **Intelligence Staff**

There is the District Intelligence Bureau at the headquarters of the district, and the staff engaged therein comprises one Inspector, two Sub-Inspectors, two Assistant Sub-Inspectors and four Constables. Intelligence staff are also posted at the subdivisional headquarters at Nilagiri, Bhadrak and Baleshwar. The intelligence staff posted at Nilagiri, Bhadrak and Baleshwar include one Sub-Inspector and one Constable, one Sub-Inspector, one Assistant Sub-Inspector and one Constable; and one Sub-Inspector and one Constable respectively. They collect necessary information pertaining to law and order situation, political organisation and their activities, labour problems and Trade Unions and their activities. The personnel keep an eye on the movement of strangers too.

### **Vigilance**

The three vigilance squads functioning for the district of Baleshwar since the 1st March, 1961 are the Baleshwar squad, the Baleshwar special squad both located in the town of Baleshwar and the Bhadrak squad stationed at Bhadrak town. The strength of the Baleshwar squad consists of one Inspector, one Sub-Inspector and three Constables while the other two squads have one Inspector and three Constables each. One Deputy Superintendent of Police stationed at Baleshwar supervises the work of these squads along with the squads in the Mayurbhanj district. The staff are under the overall administrative control of the Superintendent of Police, Vigilance, Central Division, Cuttack. The squads are to collect intelligence and to take up enquiries and investigations as and when referred to against those employees working under Government, corporations and local bodies. They also investigate cases pertaining to bribery, defalcation of public funds, cheating, etc. Cases relating to prevention of or detection of leakage of public revenue and evasion of commercial taxes are also dealt by them. Various control orders dealing with cases of hoarding, profiteering and black-marketing of essential and control commodities are also enforced by the establishment.

The table given below shows the number of vigilance cases handled by the squads separately during the six years, 1980-85.

Name of the Squad	Year	I. R.	File, Criminal enquiries cases conducted reported	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1. D. S. P., Vigilance, .. Baleshwar	1980	23	7	1
	1981	7	5	5
	1982	..	1	1
	1983	9	5	1
	1984	7	6	..
	1985	10	5	1
2. Baleshwar Squad ..	1980	19	12	..
	1981	5	3	2
	1982	21	22	..
	1983	4	7	1
	1984	23	15	1
	1985	17	11	2
3. Special Squad, .. Baleshwar	1980	22	11	1 (2-1*)
	1981	10	9	3
	1982	15	10	1
	1983	17	5	2
	1984	12	7	..
	1985	17	11	2
4. Bhadrak Squad ..	1980	21	11	2
	1981	8	8	1
	1982	24	18	1
	1983	23	16	..
	1984	13	8	..
	1985	23	8	1

One case was handled by cell.

### Railway Police

There are two Railway police-stations in the district, one located at Baleshwar with a staff of three Sub-Inspectors, one Assistant Sub-Inspector, four Havildars, and twenty-five Constables, and the other at Bhadrak with a staff of one Sub-Inspector, one Assistant Sub-Inspector and nine Constables. The Bhadrak Railway out-post was upgraded to a Railway police-station on 1st January, 1985. The jurisdiction of the police-station extends from Laxmannath railway station to Baitarani Road railway station on Howrah-Madras railway line. The Railway police-station including the out-post is under the control of the Superintendent of railway police with headquarters at Cuttack.

The table given below indicates different crime figures of the district handled by the railway police from 1981 to 1985.

Sl. No. (1)	Nature of Crime (2)	Year				
		1981 (3)	1982 (4)	1983 (5)	1984 (6)	1985 (7)
1.	Murder	1	1	1	..	..
2.	Dacoity	2	2	2	1	..
3.	Robbery	4	3	3	4	3+9*
4.	Burglary	9	7	1	5	3+1
5.	Theft	82	60	64	46	64+34*
6.	Rioting	4	1	1	..	..
7.	Swindling	..	1	2	1	..
8.	Railway Act	5	3	5	12	5+4*
9.	M. V. Accident	..	1	..	..	2+2*
10.	Gambling	..	2	..	..	+3*
11.	Opium Act	..	..	1	..	..
12.	Arms Act	..	1	..	1	+1*
13.	Essential Commodities Act.	..	..	1	..	1
14.	Drugging	1	1	..	3	1+29*
15.	Kidnapping	..	1	..	..	..
16.	Miscellaneous	28	12	11	18	10+3*

\* Figures for Bhadrak Government Railway police-station.

### Fire Services

There are four Fire Stations in the district stationed at Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Nilagiri and Soro. The Fire Station at Baleshwar is a "B" class fire station and it was established in 1944. The Bhadrak fire Station which has been functioning since 1956 is categorised as a 'C' class. The sanctioned strength of both these fire stations is the same: one Station Officer, one Assistant Station Officer, two Leading Firemen, three Driver Havildars and sixteen Firemen in each of the stations. Besides one Menial is sanctioned for Baleshwar station. One unit of fire station was incepted at Nilagiri in 1982 and the other at Soro with a sanctioned strength of one Station Officer, two Leading Firemen, two Driver Havildars and ten Firemen for each of the units.

The statement given below indicates the number of fire calls attended by the fire stations and the number of human lives saved and lost, cattle lives saved and lost; value of property saved and lost and the number of houses destroyed during the period 1980 to 1985 in the district.

Year (1)	Number of fire calls attended		Number of human lives		Number of cattle lives	
	Major (2)	Ordinary (3)	Saved (4)	Lost (5)	Saved (6)	Lost (7)
1980	13	329	..	6	..	15
1981	10	361	..	2	..	8
1982	10	386	2	2	..	19
1983	7	385	..	2	..	71
1984	17	497	..	8	..	123
1985	11	477	..	..	2	47

Year (1)	Number of houses destroyed (8)	Essential Value of Property (in Rupees)	
		Saved (9)	Lost (10)
1980	1874	4,71,44,370	30,79,935
1981	1375	1,36,55,706	37,42,842
1982	1676	98,35,070	51,27,592
1983	1817	68,53,800	35,28,691
1984	1977	2,26,10,450	83,57,990
1985	1644	91,93,500	28,93,260

### Village Police

Chowkidary system was prevalent in the district before independence and this system continued till 1965 when Beat Constables replaced the former. The primary duty of the Chowkidars was to report cases of birth and death and other offences committed in their local jurisdiction to the concerned Thana Officer on the parade day once in a week. In addition to the Chowkidars, there were Dafadars in the subdivisions of Baleshwar and Bhadrak. The remuneration of a Chowkidar and Dafadar was Rs. 5/- and Rs. 6/- per month respectively. In the ex-state of Nilagiri which now constitutes a subdivision, a Chowkidar was enjoying 5 *manas* of land as *jagir* and no cash remuneration was paid to him. The Beat Constable system continued up to 1967 and Grama Rakshis were appointed to replace the Beat Constable system. It is in vogue at present. In 1985 there were as many as 1,216 Grama Rakshis in the district.

### JAILS

The time of inception of the jail at Baleshwar may be traced back to the year 1847 on the basis of an available official brass seal engraved with the words and figures "JAIL BALESHWAR—1847". "There is a second class district jail at Baleshwar and a Subsidiary jail at Bhadrak" writes L. S. S. O' Malley in 1907. "which has accommodation for 14 prisoners; it is merely a lock-up, all but short-term prisoners being sent to the district jail at Baleshwar. The latter has accommodation for 155 prisoners, viz., for 105 male convicts, 9 female convicts and 17 under trial prisoners, while there are cells for 4 prisoners and a hospital for 20 patients. The industries carried on in the jail are oil-pressing, weaving of coarse cloth, carpet making, cane and bamboo work and the manufacture of coir fibre, coconut husks being easily obtainable, coir pounding is the chief industry".<sup>1</sup> The jail at Nilagiri was established during durbar administration. While writing Bengal Gazetteers, Feudatory States of Orissa, L. E. B. Cobden-Ramsay mentions "The jail accommodation is small and a new jail is about to be erected. In 1907-08 the average daily population was 13.

### Baleshwar District Jail

The second class jail at Baleshwar received the status of a district jail in the year 1938 due to increase of the prison population. Prior to the appointment of a full time Superintendent for the jail, the Civil Surgeon of the district was working as the part-time Superintendent who was assisted by one Jailor, one Assistant

1. Bengal District Gazetteers, Balasore (1907)

Jailor and other subordinates. The present strength of the jail includes one Superintendent, one Medical Officer, one Jailor, two Assistant Jailors, three Sub-assistant Jailors, one Chief Head Warder, five Head Warders, forty-seven male Warders, one female Warder and ten others.

The District Jail provides eight wards for the convicted male prisoners, four wards for the undertrial prisoners and two wards for the female prisoners. Thus the convicts, under trial and the female prisoners are kept separated from each class. The accommodation capacity of the prison organisation in 1985 was for 336 persons (327 male and 9 female) prisoners. The average daily population in the jail for the five years is given below.

Year	Male prisoners	Female Prisoners	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1981	210.24	3.22	213.46
1982	190.94	3.95	194.89
1983	256.77	9.52	266.29
1984	253.46	4.45	259.91
1985	225.20	4.48	229.68

The prisoners in the jail are given vocational training on crafts like weaving, smithy, tailoring and also on agriculture and gardening. There are five conventional frame looms and two semi-automatic (Bararasi pattern) looms in this jail. One weaving-cum-dyeing Mistry is appointed to impart training. The prisoners weave cloth, bed-sheets, dusters, towels, etc. There, too, is a smithy industry where articles like water drums, buckets, rice trays, strainer, scoops, tubes and trunks are manufactured by the prisoners under the instruction of an Instructor appointed for the purpose. A small tailoring unit is functioning which has three sewing machines. The output of these units are sold to the Government as well as to the public. A few prisoners are also engaged in the agricultural field and garden inside the jail campus and thus get practical training in cultivation. The prison organisation maintains a regular school for providing education to the illiterate prisoners, and especially to the juveniles up to elementary standard. A paid teacher is in charge of this school where all categories of prisoners are taught.

For the treatment of the sick prisoners there is a hospital in the jail consisting of one Medical Officer, one Pharmacist and one Male Nursing Orderly. Necessary medicines and diet are supplied to the prisoners from the jail funds.

Welfare facilities given to the prisoners are looked after by a Welfare Officer posted in the jail who works as a liaison officer between the prisoner and the members of his family. The Welfare Officer hears the personal problems of the prisoners. He makes necessary arrangements for interviews of the relatives of the prisoners with the latter. Through the Welfare Officer the prisoners are given every reasonable facility to have communication with the members of their families, friends and relatives through letters and interviews conducted at the jail gate. The jail inmates who are willing to consult their legal advisors in disposal of their cases, granting of bail and filing of appeal petitions are allowed to do so with the help of the Welfare Officer. He also makes necessary arrangements for their release on furlough and parole leaves.

Recreational facilities are also provided to the prisoners. Film shows are screened by the Information & Public Relations Department in the jail once a month. Other entertainment programmes like Pala, Daskathia, short scripts are also provided to them at intervals. They also organise and stage theatrical performances on different occasions. There is a radio set and a small library for the use of the prisoners.

The Board of Visitors for this District Jail constitutes nineteen and nine official members at the district level and the state level respectively and five non-official members of which two are Members of the Legislative Assembly and one lady of repute. All the non-official members are appointed by the District Magistrate and Collector who is the chairman of the Board of Visitors for a term of two years. The chairman prepares a roster of the visitors to visit the jail. But the visitors are also at liberty to visit the jail on any working day outside the roster. The board would meet at the jail premises quarterly. At the time of visit the members inspect the jail buildings and the prisoners, hear the complaints and petitions preferred by the prisoners, examine the prisoners food with regard to quality and quantity, verify the punishment register maintained by the jail, look to the health and sanitary condition of the jail and offer suggestions to Government for the betterment of the prisoners as well as of the prison.



The table given below shows the release of convicts on different grounds like expiry of terms, remission, appeal, government order and transfer to other jails from the District Jail during the last five years, i.e., 1981 to 1985.

Year	On expiry of sentence		On remission		On appeal	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1981	114	..	21	..	7	..
1982	106	1	17	..	11	..
1983	156	4	19	..	12	..
1984	113	3	46	..	11	..
1985	135	..	77	..	6	..

Year	By order of Government		Transferred to other Jails		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
(1)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
1981	..	..	17	..	169
1982	..	..	..	..	135
1983	..	..	14	..	205
1984	..	..	13	..	186
1985	..	..	7	..	225

#### Special Sub-Jail, Bhadrak

The Special Sub-jail at Bhadrak is a 'C' class jail. The staff of the prison includes one part-time \* Superintendent (the Subdivisional Medical Officer of Bhadrak act as the ex-officio Superintendent), one Jailor, one Sub-assistant Jailor, three

\*Now a full-time Superintendent from the jail cadre has been appointed.

Head Warders, sixteen Warders, one Wardress and three sweepers. There are altogether seven wards in the jail of which six are for male and one for female. Its accommodation capacity is for 111 male prisoners and three female prisoners in 1986. The average daily population of the jail during the last five years from 1981 to 1985 was as follows :

Year	Average daily population
1981	251.02
1982	134.77
1983	112.63
1984	95.05
1985	56.20

The convicts and the under-trial prisoners are kept in separate wards and so also the male and female prisoners. There is no provision for vocational training for the prisoners at present in the jail. There is a Board of Visitors for the jail which comprises one official and two non-official members.

The table given shows the number of convicts released from the prison in different grounds, such as, appeal, expiry of term, remission of sentences, etc. from 1981 to 1985.

Year	Grounds of release		
	On Appeal	On expiry of term	On remission of sentences
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1981	3	80	9
1982	6	99	29
1983	6	71	4
1984	6	45	9
1985	..	54	1

#### Nilagiri Sub-jail

There are one Assistant Jailor, one Sub-Assistant Jailor, one Pharmacist in the sub-jail at Nilagiri. Besides, there are the guarding staff. The Subdivisional Medical Officer \* of Nilagiri was the part-time Superintendent of the jail. The jail has two male wards, one female ward and two cells for male. The accommodation capacity of the prison in 1986 was for 35 male and 2 female prisoners.

\*Now a full-time Superintendent from among the jail cadre.

The average daily population of the jail remains below the accommodation capacity. The average daily population of the jail during the year 1981-82 to 1985-86 (year-wise) was as follows.

Year (1)	Average daily population		
	Male (2)	Female (3)	Total (4)
1981-82	9.43	0.52	9.95
1982-83	9.51	0.52	10.03
1983-84	12.91	0.02	12.93
1984-85	0.35	0.01	0.36
1985-86	0.21	0.01	0.22

The Board of Visitors for the prison includes three non-official (including one lady member) and two official members. It is a very small prison so far as its average population is concerned.

The number of convicts released from the jail on different grounds like on appeal, on expiry, on remission, on transfer, etc. during the last five years, i.e., from 1981-82 to 1985-86 is given below.

Year (1)	Number of convicts released					
	On Appeal (2)	On expiry (3)	On Remission (4)	On Transfer (5)	On other grounds (6)	On Bail (7)
1981-82	2	3	...	2	1	2
1982-83	...	1	...	3	1	3
1983-84	...	3	...	6	...	4
1984-85	...	5	1	1	...	4
1985-86	...	6	...	1	...	2

#### After-care Shelter, Baleshwar

The District After-care Shelter, Baleshwar has been functioning since 1958 with its jurisdiction over the districts of Baleshwar, Mayurbhanj and Kendujhar. It looks after the socio-economic rehabilitation of the prisoners released from the jails at Baleshwar, Baripada, Kendujhar and special sub-jail at Bhadrak. The shelter is managed by one After-care Officer assisted by a clerk-cum-typist. The organisation finds employment opportunities for its inmates in different private and public sectors. The desirous inmates are admitted in the Central Home at Baripada for getting vocational training on

different trades for their ultimate rehabilitation in the society. The inmates are also given financial assistance at times for opening of small trades in their locality. This apart, regular follow-up contacts are made by the After-care Officer with the ex-inmates of the shelter after going to their respective homes. He too contacts the members of their family and the villagers at large for their social adjustment. This is being done keeping in view that the released prisoners can be prevented from indulging in crime again.

The statement given below shows the number of inmates admitted into the After-care shelter, inmates rehabilitated vocationally and socially and number of inmates discharged from the shelter during the years 1980 to 1985.

Year	Total No. of inmates admitted	No. of inmates rehabilitated	
		socially	vocationally
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1980	5	3	..
1981	14	8	3
1982	5	2	1
1983	9	6	1
1984	7	7	...
1985	36	24	7

Year	No. of inmates sent to		No. of inmates discharged	Balance
	Central Home	Probation Hostel		
(1)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1980	2	...	..	..
1981	..	..	..	3
1982	..	..	..	3
1983	..	..	5	..
1984	..	..	..	..
1985	1	..	4	..

### District Probation Office

The District Probation Office at Baleshwar started functioning from the year 1962. The District Probation Officer in charge of the office is mainly a Court Officer. He contacts the offenders and submits his report to the courts as to the desirability and possibility of treating them as probationers. He also supervises over the probationers. Probation is a conditional suspension of punishment, a way of dealing with the specially selected offenders placed under the personal supervisions of the Probation Officer. Probation includes a positive individualised guidance and assistance involving educational, therapeutic and rehabilitative objectives. The method of treatment involves counselling, professional care work, psychiatric treatment, job-placement, family readjustment, temporary shelter and assistance in cash or kind to the offenders. It is a chance given to the criminals for their correction and reformation. An opportunity is given to them to refrain themselves from unlawful associations. For better training probationers are transferred to Probation Hostel at Anugul.

The table given below shows the number of probationers placed under the District Probation Officer, Baleshwar, and the number of probationers rehabilitated socially and economically in the years 1980-81 to 1984-85.

Year	No. of preliminary report submitted to the court	Total number of probationers	Probationers reverted to a life of crime	Probationers transferred for training	Probationers vocationally and socially rehabilitated	Probationers remained at the end of the year
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1980-81	164	128	1	...	15	113
1981-82	317	128	...	...	22	106
1982-83	298	218	...	..	146	72
1983-84	412	235	...	3	93	142
1984-85	423	256	...	1	104	152

## JUSTICE

The judgeship of Baleshwar, comprising the revenue district of Baleshwar only, with the subdivisions of Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Nilagiri, was constituted on the 15th January 1959. In the old province of Bihar and Orissa, civil and criminal administration of the district was under the Cuttack-Puri-Baleshwar judgeship. The province of Orissa was created on the 1st April, 1936 and since then till 1948, i.e., for twelve years, the administration of justice of the district was under the judgeship of Cuttack-Baleshwar-Sambalpur. After the merger of the princely states, it came under the Kendujhar judgeship constituted in 1948 for only a short time, having territorial jurisdiction over the two districts of Kendujhar and Baleshwar. The ex-state of Mayurbhanj merged with the state of Orissa in 1949 and it remained under the Mayurbhanj judgeship with headquarters at Baripada till 1959 when a separate judgeship for the district of Baleshwar only was created on the 15th January 1959 as mentioned earlier.

The Munsif's court at Baleshwar is the oldest of the courts in Baleshwar which was established sometimes within the period from 1870 to 1900, probably in 1880 as it is evident from old record that the court was functioning in the same year. It remained under the control and supervision of the District Judge, Cuttack. He was also the Sessions Judge and the head of criminal administration.

The second Munsif's court was established at Bhadrak in 1900. The Munsif's court at Nilagiri came into being when the ex-state of Nilagiri was made a subdivision of the district in 1948 after its integration. A permanent Sub-Judge's Court was incepted on the 2nd January, 1948 at Bhadrak.

The District Judge stationed at Baripada was holding circuit court at Baleshwar till 1957-58. It seems that the Sessions Circuit Court at Baleshwar was established sometime prior to 1915. In 1957-58 the post of Additional District and Sessions Judge, Mayurbhanj, was created with headquarters at Baleshwar and since January 15, 1959 the District Judge Court is independently functioning at Baleshwar.

Prior to the segregation of judiciary from the executive which took place on the 1st May, 1960, the bulk of the administration of the criminal justice at the district and subdivisional headquarters was performed by the Deputy Magistrates and Sub-deputy Magistrates having the powers of Magistrates First class,

Second class and Third class. These officers were revenue and administrative officers and were required to perform multifarious miscellaneous duties in addition to their judicial work as magistrates. Besides, some stipendary magistrates were also posted at certain places to deal with petty criminal cases. These magistrates were under the District Magistrate who was assisted by one Additional District Magistrate. The District Magistrate and the Additional District Magistrate did not hear original cases. The Additional District Magistrate was mainly hearing appeals from the judgement of Second and Third class magistrates and criminal revisions. The District Magistrate combined in himself dual functions, firstly as the head of the criminal administration he directed and controlled the police and in that capacity was responsible for proper prosecution of criminal cases in the Courts of Magistrates, secondly he was also a judicial officer who was the superior authority over all the magistrates in the district in respect of their judicial work.

Just before separation, the district had twenty-three magistrates including the District Magistrate and one Additional District Magistrate. The Subdivisional Officers of Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Nilagiri were Magistrates having First class power. In the Baleshwar subdivision, the District Magistrate was being assisted by one Additional District Magistrate and thirteen Deputy and Sub-deputy Magistrates. In Bhadrak and Nilagiri subdivisions, there were five and three magistrates respectively. They included the Subdivisional Magistrates.

### **Separation of Judiciary from the Executive**

As per the Directive Principles of States Policy in the Constitution of India there was separation of judiciary from the executive with effect from the 1st May 1960 and the scheme was implemented for the first time in the districts of Cuttack, Puri and Baleshwar. The Criminal Procedure Code, 1898 was not amended, but under the executive instructions issued by the Government of Orissa the separation was given effect to. The functions of the District Magistrate have been bifurcated due to this separation. His functions which were essentially judicial and of general administrative and superintendence and control over the courts of the Judicial Magistrates were transferred to an officer designated as the Additional District Magistrate (Judicial). Functions which were "police" in nature, as per instance handling of unlawful assemblies and control over investigation by police, and issue of licences for firearms, etc., continued to be discharged by the

Collector-*cum*-District Magistrate and the revenue officers subordinate to him as before. A new set of officers designated as the Judicial Magistrates were introduced, for trial of criminal cases. The Judicial Magistrates in the lower strata were given powers of Magistrate First class, Second class and Third class. A senior Judicial Magistrate First class designated as the Subdivisional Judicial Magistrate remained in charge of a subdivision against his counterpart in the executive side as Subdivisional Magistrate. As a matter of fact, all Judicial Magistrates of First class exercise the same powers within their respective jurisdictions. The Additional District Magistrate (Judicial) remained in overall charge of this newly born magistracy and he practically functioned for all purposes as a District Magistrate under the Criminal Procedure Code. He did not remain under the control of the District Magistrate but administratively and judicially became subordinate to the High Court. After amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code in 1973, the post of the Additional District Magistrate was redesignated as the Chief Judicial Magistrate and for all practical purposes he exercises powers of the old District Magistrate within the district.

### **Criminal**

As stated earlier, the District Judge, Baripada, was having Circuit Courts at Baleshwar till 1957-58. In view of the increase in the litigation it was felt necessary to have a permanent District and Sessions Court at Baleshwar. Accordingly, sometime in 1957-58 a post of Additional District and Sessions Judge, Mayurbhanj, was created with headquarters at Baleshwar and from the 15th January, 1959 the district could acquire an independent judgship for itself. After creation of this judgship a new Sub-Judge Court has been established at Bhadrak since the 26th January, 1966.

At present there is one Chief Judicial Magistrate stationed at Baleshwar, the headquarters of the district and three Subdivisional Judicial Magistrates in the subdivisions of Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Nilagiri. The sanctioned strength of Baleshwar subdivision is five Judicial Magistrates, First class and one Judicial Magistrate, Second class. The sanctioned strength of Bhadrak subdivision includes four Judicial Magistrates First class. In Nilagiri subdivision the Munsif, Nilagiri exercises the power of the Subdivisional Judicial Magistrate and Magistrate, First class since the merger of the erstwhile state. The District and Sessions Judge, Baleshwar, is in the overall control of the entire civil and criminal administration of justice in the district.



The District and Sessions Judge, Baleshwar, performs dual function. He is the District Judge relating to the administration of the civil justice and he is also the Sessions Judge for criminal justice. As Sessions Judge, he is empowered to try important cases like murder and gang cases. He is assisted by the Assistant Sessions Judges in disposing of other Sessions cases. He hears appeals against the judgement of the Assistant Sessions Judges where maximum sentence is given upto seven years beyond which the appeal is directly referred to the Orissa High Court. The Sessions Judge has been declared as Special Judge to try cases under section 5 (2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act. He has the power to grant anticipatory bail to the accused persons under section 438 of the new Criminal Procedure Code. In this district, trial of a number of gang cases under section 400 of the Indian Penal Code was taken up for disposal by the Sessions Judge at Baleshwar under orders of the Orissa High Court. In this case it may be mentioned here that in 1973 a gang case was taken up in which as many as 116 accused persons and 1,067 witnesses were involved, the trial of which continued from the 29th March, 1973 to the 31st May, 1976. The Sessions Judge also hears Criminal Revisions against the orders passed by the Judicial Magistrates and of the Executive Magistrates.

The Chief Judicial Magistrate performs administrative as well as judicial functions. He tries criminal cases as Magistrate First class. He is also an Assistant Sessions Judge and tries sessions cases too. He hears appeals relating to House Rent Control Act independently. The Sub-judges of Baleshwar and Bhadrak are also Assistant Sessions Judges and they try sessions cases in their respective jurisdictions. A statement showing the number of sessions cases, criminal appeals and criminal revisions instituted, transferred and disposed of during the period 1981—85 in the district is given in Appendix II of this chapter.

The Munsif of Bhadrak is also a Magistrate, First class and he tries criminal cases of Bhadrak subdivision. The Subdivisional Judicial Magistrate, Nilagiri, holds Circuit Court at Bhadrak during the first three days of the week regularly due to less work at Nilagiri and heavy pendency of cases at Bhadrak since the 4th February, 1977.

A statement showing the number of criminal cases tried, criminal appeals heard, persons involved, acquitted and convicted by the different courts of the district during the years 1981—85 is given in Appendix III of this chapter.

## Civil

As stated earlier, the District and Sessions Judge, Baleshwar, is the head of the administration of the civil as well as the criminal justice in the district since the creation of the post in 1959. The District Judge hears appeals against the judgement of the Munsifs and the Sub-judges upto the pecuniary limit of Rs. 5,000. He is also having powers to try original cases relating to probate of wills, letters of administration, municipal election, Guardian and Wards Act, etc. As the workload on the District Judge increased, necessity was felt for creation of a post of Registrar, Civil Courts at Baleshwar to perform the day-to-day duties of the District Judge and to assist him in all the administrative matters concerning the district. The post in the cadre of a Munsif was sanctioned for the Baleshwar Judgeship in 1968 and later in 1973 the post was upgraded. He is also the Registrar of Sessions Court of the district. Sometimes, in 1977, during the period of National Clearance Drive, the Registrar, Civil Courts, Baleshwar was conferred with the powers of an Assistant Sessions Judge. He is also the Judicial Magistrate First class and he is the Judge-in-charge of Accounts, Record Room, Copying Department, Nizarat and Sessions Malkhana of Baleshwar. The Registrar as Additional Sub-judge hears appeals arising out of the judgement of Munsif, Baleshwar, on transfer.

The Chief Judicial Magistrate also exercises powers of an Additional Sub-judge and in this capacity he hears appeals transferred to him by the District Judge.

The Sub-judges posted at Baleshwar and Bhadrak exercise unlimited pecuniary jurisdiction in disposing of civil cases. The Sub-judges hear appeals against the judgement of the Munsif in their respective jurisdictions.

There are three Munsifs posted, one each at the subdivisional headquarters of Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Nilagiri. The Munsif's court at Baleshwar is the oldest one and that of Bhadrak a little later than the former. The Munsif at Nilagiri was created in 1948 after the integration of the Nilagiri ex-state with Orissa. But till the 7th July, 1960, the Munsif, Baleshwar was also the Munsif of Nilagiri trying civil suits and cases in circuit at Nilagiri. Since the 8th July, 1960, the Subdivisional Magistrate (Judicial), Nilagiri has been vested with the powers of a Munsif to try all civil suits and cases. The Munsifs at Baleshwar and Bhadrak are full-time Munsifs all along. The Munsifs of Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Nilagiri exercise powers in their respective jurisdictions and try civil suits and

cases within the pecuniary limits of Rs. 2,000/-, Rs. 2,000/- and Rs. 4,000/- respectively. They are also vested with small cause powers to try suits up to the value of Rs. 100/-.

Statement indicating the number of different types of civil suits instituted and disposed of and appeals heard by different courts in the district during the years 1981 to 1985 is given in Appendix IV of this chapter.

### **Bar Association**

There are three Bar Associations in the district located at Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Nilagiri.

#### **Bar Association, Baleshwar**

The Baleshwar Bar Association at Baleshwar is the oldest and the largest of its kind in the district. Started in the month of January, 1898 with only five members of the bar, had increased to 184 in June, 1986. The association has its own building and a reference library.

#### **Bar Association, Bhadrak**

The Bhadrak Bar Association, Bhadrak, was established in 1908 with ten members. In 1982, the total membership in the bar went up to 92. The bar has its own building and a library for reference of the members.

#### **Bar Association, Nilagiri**

The Nilagiri Bar Association at Nilagiri was constituted during the Durbar administration of the ex-State. The Bar Association has 8 members on its roll in October, 1986. It has no building of its own and no library.

## APPENDIX I

**Statement showing the name of police circles,  
police-stations and outposts in the district.**

Sl. No.	Police Circles	Police-stations	Outposts
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1.	Jaleshwar Circle	Bhograi	Laxmipatna
			Huguli
			Kamarda
		Jaleshwar	Nampo
		Raibania	Kushagarh
2.	Basta Circle	Basta	Amarda Road
			Rupsa
		Baliapal	Jamkunda
		Singla	Badhan
			Sartha
3.	Sadar Circle	Baleshwar Town	Bicharganj
			Sahadebkhunta
			Damodarpur
			Sunhat
		Sadar	Parkhi
			Chandipur
			Haldipada
		Khantapada	Gopalpur
		Soro	..
		Similla	..

Sl. No.	Police Circles	Police-station	Outposts
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
4.	Nilagiri Circle	Remuna Nilagiri  Khaira Berhampur Oupada	Durgadevi Ishwarpur Ayodhya .. ... ..
5.	Bhadrak Circle	Basudebpur  Bant Dhamnagar Bhandaripokhari Bhadrak  Bhadrak (Rural) Dhusuri Naikanidhi	...  Agarpara .. Manjuri Road Puruna Bazar Charampa Salandi Kenduapada .. ..
6.	Chandbali Circle	Bansada  Tihiri Chandbali	Karanjamal  Ghanteswar Dhamara Pirhat Aradi

## APPENDIX II

**Statement showing the number of Sessions Cases, Criminal Appeals and Criminal Revisions instituted and disposed of and the number of persons involved during the years 1981—85 in the Judgeship of Baleshwar.**

Year	No. of cases instituted	No. of cases disposed of	No. of persons involved	No. of persons acquitted	No. of persons convicted	Remarks
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
SESSIONS CASES						
1981	91	69	278	234	44	
1982	88	73	308	218	88	2 released on P. O. Act.
1983	102	101	504	368	130	6 released on P. O. Act.
1984	137	104	546	489	59	1 released on P. O. Act.
1985	154	141	682	607	73	2 released on P. O. Act.

(Contd').

## CRIMINAL APPEALS

1981	105	179	476	311	165	—
1982	181	126	270	149	121	—
1983	131	142	480	233	247	—
1984	177	95	188	127	61	—
1985	132	141	389	297	92	—

## CRIMINAL REVISIONS

1981	111	132	746	354	392	—
1982	128	113	425	203	222	—
1983	130	112	369	158	211	—
1984	122	105	371	174	197	—
1985	129	114	453	202	251	—

## APPENDIX III

Statement showing the number of Criminal Cases tried, persons involved, acquitted and convicted by different Courts of Baleshwar district from 1981 to 1985

Name of the Court (1)	Criminal cases tried (2)	Persons involved (3)	Persons acquitted (4)	Persons convicted (5)
<b>1981</b>				
Chief Judicial Magistrate, Baleshwar ..	55	156	146	10
Subdivisional Judicial Magistrate, Baleshwar	558	2,142	1,653	489
Subdivisional Magistrate, Nilagiri ...	269	1,167	262	905
Judicial Magistrate, First Class, Baleshwar ..	1,774	6,427	5,722	710
<b>1982</b>				
Chief Judicial Magistrate, Baleshwar ..	294	668	467	197
Subdivisional Judicial Magistrate, Baleshwar ..	483	1,085	814	271
Judicial Magistrate, First Class, Baleshwar ...	1,384	5,595	5,190	410
Subdivisional Judicial Magistrate, Nilagiri ...	281	653	264	389

(Cont d.)



## 1983

Chief Judicial Magistrate, Baleshwar ..	733	1,809	1,520	289
Subdivisional Judicial Magistrate, Baleshwar ..	709	1,792	1,664	128
Judicial Magistrate, First Class, Baleshwar ..	1,825	4,100	4,033	1,367
Subdivisional Judicial Magistrate, Nilagiri ..	309	554	233	321
Subdivisional Judicial Magistrate, Bhadrak ..	513	1,106	256	550
Judicial Magistrate, First Class, Bhadrak ..	875	1,303	270	1,333

## 1984

Chief Judicial Magistrate, Baleshwar ..	746	1,542	1,341	201
Subdivisional Judicial Magistrate, Baleshwar ..	454	1,100	960	140
Judicial Magistrate, First Class, Baleshwar ..	1,721	4,155	3,690	462
Subdivisional Judicial Magistrate, Bhadrak ..	949	1,687	911	776
Judicial Magistrate, First Class, Bhadrak ..	1,042	2,327	363	1,964
Subdivisional Judicial Magistrate, Nilagiri ..	372	791	185	606

## 1985

Chief Judicial Magistrate, Baleshwar ..	141	452	419	33
Subdivisional Judicial Magistrate, Baleshwar ..	603	1,532	1,154	378
Judicial Magistrate, First Class, Baleshwar ..	1,547	3,939	3,520	421
Subdivisional Judicial Magistrate, Bhadrak ..	701	1,575	691	884
Judicial Magistrate, First Class, Bhadrak ..	523	1,668	338	1,330
Subdivisional Judicial Magistrate, Nilagiri ..	222	555	48	507

**Statement showing the number of different types of Civil Suits and Appeals instituted and disposed of by different courts of the Judgeship of Baleshwar from 1981 to 1985**

[illegible]

45



Nature of Cases	Year										
	1981		1982		1983		1984		1985		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	
ADDITIONAL MUNSIF, BALESHWAR											
Title and other Suits	..	42	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
Money Suits	..	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
S. C. C. Suits	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
SUB-JUDGE, BHADRAK											
Title and other Suits	152	83	184	120	157	178	172	106	140	93	
Money Suits	102	27	60	47	94	91	116	50	53	41	
S. C. C. Suits	17	34	26	18	22	24	9	27	7	11	
Title Appeals	33	25	38	19	24	38	39	25	55	25	
Money Appeals	10	6	3	2	4	9	7	2	6	5	
Misc. Appeals	45	29	48	21	41	65	46	34	40	24	

(Contd.)

(Contd.)

## MUNSIF, BHADRAK

Title and other Suits	336	247	222	221	214	257	226	192	296	161
Money Suits	61	66	75	42	109	104	78	89	68	72
S. C. C. Suits	4	4	50	5	2	39	..	8	..	..

## ADDITIONAL MUNSIF, BHADRAK

Title and other Suits	..	...	...	...	...	...	..	79	..	108
Money Suits	..	...	..	...	..	..	..	5	..	3

## MUNSIF, NILAGIRI

Title and other Suits	17	41	17	23	13	27	17	21	24	29
Money Suits	3	7	1	1	4	1	9	4	20	11

## **CHAPTER XIII**

### **OTHER DEPARTMENTS**

#### **Works Department**

##### **Roads and Buildings**

The Works Department is responsible for all public works relating to construction and maintenance of roads, bridges and buildings in the state and is divided into several branches, each being in charge of a Chief Engineer. For administrative purpose each branch is divided into several Circles. Each circle is under the control of a Superintending Engineer who is directly responsible to the Chief Engineer. Besides, there are other circles to help the department for taking up investigation, quality control, design, special projects, etc.

The office of the Superintending Engineer, Eastern Circle (R & B), Balleshwar is functioning at Balleshwar since January, 1974. This circle has jurisdiction over two Revenue districts of Mayurbhanj and Balleshwar.

In Balleshwar district there are three Divisions, namely, Balleshwar (R & B) Division, Bhadrak (R & B) Division and Subarnarekha Division with headquarters at Balleshwar, Bhadrak and Rajghat respectively.

The Balleshwar (Roads and Buildings) Division comprises 3 regular subdivisions and one temporary subdivision, i.e., Balleshwar Subdivision, Soro Subdivision and Nilagiri Subdivision and Flyover bridge subdivision and 16 sections. This division is in charge of a Executive Engineer who is working under the direct control of Superintending Engineer, Eastern Circle, Balleshwar.

In October, 1981 the Bhadrak (R & B) Division was created with headquarters at Bhadrak. The division consists of three subdivisions located at Bhadrak, Chandbali and Basudebpur having 16 sections under these subdivisions.

The Subarnarekha Division consists of two subdivisions with headquarters at Rajghat, namely, Rajghat subdivision-I and Rajghat subdivision-II. Each subdivision is divided into 4 sections.

Besides, there is one more Subdivisional Officer in charge of General Electrical Subdivision at Balleshwar under the General Electrical Division No. II, Cuttack to look after all electrical installation

works of government buildings in Baleshwar district. The subdivision is functioning with three sections located at Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Nilagiri.

There is one Mechanical Division at Baleshwar to look after the machineries of all the divisions in the districts of Baleshwar, Mayurbhanj and Kendujhar.

Each division is in charge of an Executive Engineer and the subdivisions and sections are under the charge of Assistant Engineers and Junior Engineers, respectively.

### **National Highways Projects**

The Chief Engineer, National Highways, Bhubaneswar is the head of this organisation. Baleshwar district comes under the Superintending Engineer, National Highways, Circle-I, Bhubaneswar. Since January, 1962 the National Highway project was started in the district. There is one divisional office at Baleshwar under a Executive Engineer. This division executes the construction, maintenance and repairs of National Highway No. 5. It has its jurisdiction over 106.50 km. of National Highways and 76 numbers of other roads having a total length of 670.90 km.

The District National Highway Projects Office, Baleshwar was created in September, 1961. This division has been divided into 4 subdivisions, viz., National Highway Subdivision No. I, Baleshwar; National Highway Subdivision No. II, Baleshwar; National Highway Subdivision, Bhadrak and National Highway Subdivision, Bhandaripokhari. The National Highway Subdivision, No. I, Baleshwar comprises four sections of which 2 sections are functioning at Soro whereas other two sections are located at Baleshwar and Khantapara respectively. The National Highway Subdivision No. II, Baleshwar consists of four sections, namely, National Highway Section No. I, National Highway Section No. II, National Highway Section No. III and National Highway Section No. IV. The headquarters of all the sections are at Bhubaneswar. There are four sections under the National Highway Subdivision, Bhadrak of which two sections are located at Bhadrak and the other two sections are at Markona. The National Highway Subdivision, Bhandaripokhari has four sections of which two sections are functioning at Bhandaripokhari, whereas one section is located at Barikpur and another at Akhuapada. Each subdivision is under the supervision of an Assistant Engineer and each section is under the charge of a Section Officer in the rank of Junior Engineer.

**Public Health Department**

The Chief Engineer, Public Health, with headquarters at Bhubaneswar is the head of the State Public Health Organisation. This organisation has been divided into a number of Public Health Circles, each in charge of a Superintending Engineer. Baleshwar district comes under the Public Health Circle, Cuttack. The organisation mainly looks after the water supply, sanitary installation, sewerage and drainage schemes, and sinking of tube-wells in the state.

Till 30th, September, 1982, the district had two Public Health Divisions named as Baleshwar Public Health Division and Bhadrak Public Health Division. The Baleshwar Public Health Division with headquarters at Baleshwar was created on 17th April, 1974 whereas the Bhadrak Public Health Division with headquarters at Bhadrak was created on 16th January, 1978. On 1st October, 1982 the Bhadrak Public Health Division with its two subdivisions, i.e., Chandbali Public Health Subdivision and Basudebpur Public Health Subdivision were transferred from the control of the Superintending Engineer, Public Health Circle, Cuttack to the control of the Project Director, DANIDA, Bhubaneswar to look after the DANIDA investigation and execution work of water supply in the district. This division was renamed as the DANIDA project Public Health Division, Bhadrak.

Since then the Executive Engineer, Baleshwar Public Health Division is in charge of the normal works of the Public Health Organisation in the entire district of Baleshwar except the Chandbali Public Health Subdivision. This division has been divided into four subdivisions, viz., Baleshwar Public Health Subdivision, Bhadrak Public Health Subdivision, Soro Public Health Subdivision and Jaleshwar Public Health Subdivision each in charge of an Assistant Engineer. Each subdivision has been subdivided into a number of sections each in charge of a Section Officer in the rank of a Junior Engineer.

Baleshwar Public Health Subdivision has been divided into five sections of which four are functioning at Baleshwar whereas one is located at Remuna. The Section Officers of Public Health Sections No. I, and No. II, Baleshwar besides looking after the maintenance of water supply to Baleshwar town also execute some original public health works. The Section Officer No. III Baleshwar is in charge of the public health works of Baleshwar Sadar Community Development Block and also looks after the vehicles of the Public Health Organisation. The Section Officer No. IV, Baleshwar has been entrusted with the central store and tool and plants of the Public Health Organisation. The public health work of the Remuna C. D. Block is looked after by the Section Officer Remuna.



The Public Health Subdivision, Bhadrak has been divided into four sections of which three sections, viz., Public Health Section No. I, Public Health Section No. II and Public Health Section No. III are located at Bhadrak. The Section Officer No. I has been in charge of store, vehicles, and tools and plants. The Section Officer No. II looks after the maintenance of town water supply whereas the Section Officer No. III is in charge of original and maintenance work of tube-wells of Bhadrak, Tihiri and Bant C. D. Blocks and maintenance work of Chandbali C. D. Block. The Section Officer, Public Health Section No. IV is in charge of original work and maintenance of tube-wells of Bhandaripokhari and Dhamnagar C. D. Blocks.

There are three sections functioning under the Soro Public Health subdivision. The Section Officer, Soro is in charge of original work and maintenance of tube-wells in Soro and Bahanaga C. D. Blocks. He also looks after the vehicles of the organisation. The Section Officer Nilagiri is in charge of original and maintenance of public health works of Nilagiri and Oupada Blocks whereas the works of Basudebpur, Similia and Khaira Blocks are looked after by the Section Officer, Basudebpur.

The Jaleshwar Public Health Subdivision has four sections attached to each of the C. D. Blocks of Jaleshwar, Baliapal, Bhograi and Basta. These sections, viz., Jaleshwar Public Health Section, Baliapal Public Health Section, Bhograi Public Health Section and Basta Public Health Section look after original work and maintenance of tube-wells of the respective Blocks.

#### **Danida Project Public Health Division**

As stated earlier the Public Health Division, Bhadrak with its Chandbali and Basudebpur subdivisions was transferred to the control of the Project Director, DANIDA, Bhubaneswar on 1st October, 1982 to form the DANIDA Project Public Health Division, Bhadrak. The division has taken up original work in connection with sinking of tube-wells in the saline belt of the district. It is financed both by the Danish International Development Agency and the Government of Orissa.

The division has been divided into three Public Health Subdivisions, viz., Baleshwar Public Health Subdivision with headquarters at Bhadrak, Basudebpur Public Health Subdivision and Chandbali Public Health Subdivision. Each of the subdivisions is in charge of an Assistant Engineer. There are three Junior Engineers working under the Baleshwar Public Health subdivision whereas 3 and 5 Junior Engineers are posted under the Basudebpur and Chandbali Public Health Subdivisions respectively.

Activities of the Public Health Organisation in the district find mention in Chapter XVI (Medical and Public Health Services).

### **Irrigation Department**

The Chief Engineer in state headquarters is at the apex of this organisation. There are six irrigation circles each under the control of a Superintending Engineer.

Baleshwar Irrigation Division with a Executive Engineer at its head is in charge of Orissa Coast Canal, Chudamani canal, river embankments and test relief embankments in Subarnarekha, Burhabalanga and Kansbans basins. The division has been divided into three subdivisions located at Baleshwar, Basudebpur and Jaleshwar. Each subdivision has four sections. The sections are located at Baleshwar, Nilagiri, Basta, Soro, Jaleshwar, Bhograi, Basudebpur and Kaithkola. This division is under the control of Superintending Engineer, Baripada Irrigation Circle, Baripada.

Another Flood Investigation Division under Baripada Irrigation Circle has been created with three subdivisions. Of these one subdivision with headquarters at Baleshwar is working for Baleshwar district. There is a Minor Irrigation Division in Baleshwar under Baripada Irrigation Circle with five subdivisions, two at Baleshwar, one at Bhadrak, one at Nilagiri and one at Soro in charge of minor irrigation projects in the district.

Under the Superintending Engineer, Northern Irrigation Circle, Salapada, Kendujhar there is one Division, namely, the Salandi Canal Division with headquarters at Bhadrak. It was created during 1961 to execute the Salandi left canal system, and flood, saline and test relief embankments of Salandi basin. This division consists of four subdivisions and a number of sections. The subdivisions have headquarters at Bhadrak, Khera, Markona and Chandbali.

The Anandapur Barrage Division at Bidyadharpur in Kendujhar district is in charge of the Salandi right canal system. This division has three subdivisions working in Baleshwar district with headquarters at Salania, Bant and Agarpada (Badahat Trilochanpur).

Moreover, Akhuapada Irrigation Subdivision under Jajpur Irrigation Division of Eastern Circle, Cuttack is in charge of the high level canal range-III system, flood and test relief embankments on Baitarani left in Baleshwar district.

Each division is in charge of a Executive Engineer and the subdivisions and sections are under the charge of Assistant Engineers and Junior Engineers respectively.

### **Lift Irrigation Department**

The Director, Lift Irrigation, Orissa is the administrative head of this organisation. The functions of this department are survey and investigation of sources of ground water, installation of water pumps and tube-wells for irrigation purposes. Besides, this department is also responsible to provide lift irrigation facilities in the non-irrigated areas of the state.

In Baleshwar district Lift Irrigation Projects started in 1966 under the Baleshwar Irrigation division. The Divisional Office is located at Baleshwar town. Under this Division there are six subdivisions of which four are civil subdivisions, located at Basta, Jaleshwar, Baleshwar, and Baripada in Mayurbhanj district. The rest two are mechanical and electrical subdivisions located at Baleshwar. The Basta Lift Irrigation Subdivision consists of 4 sections located at Basta, Rajghat, Jamsuli and Baliapal. The Jaleshwar Lift Irrigation Subdivision consists of 4 sections of which two sections are located at Jaleshwar, one at Raibania and the other one at Bhograi. The Baleshwar Lift Irrigation Subdivision comprises three sections located at Baleshwar, Nilagiri and Remuna. The Lift Irrigation Subdivision (Mechanical) Baleshwar has five sections and all the section offices are attached to the subdivision. The Lift Irrigation Subdivision (Electrical) has been divided into 4 sections located at Baleshwar, Baripada, Basta and Jaleshwar.

The Bhadrak Lift Irrigation Division was established in August 1978. This division is in charge of installation of tube-wells for irrigation purpose. Under this division there are five subdivisions, i.e., (1) Lift Irrigation Subdivision, Bhadrak (2) Lift Irrigation Subdivision, Soro, (3) Lift Irrigation Subdivision, Dhamnagar, (4) Mechanical (Drilling) Subdivision, Bhadrak and (5) Lift Irrigation (Electrical) Subdivision, Bhadrak. Each subdivision has been divided into 3 to 5 sections.

Each division is headed by a Executive Engineer and each subdivision and section is headed by an Assistant Engineer and Junior Engineer, respectively.

### **Electricity Department**

Baleshwar district comes under the administrative control of the Extra High Tension Constructions Circle, Bhubaneswar. Power is brought at high tension from Jajpur Road to Baleshwar Bhadrak and from Baleshwar it is distributed to consumers at low tension. The Extra High Tension Construction Division with sub-station at Bhadrak is headed by a Executive Engineer. Three

subdivisions and eight sections are functioning under this division. Out of 3 subdivisions two subdivisions are located at Bhadrak and one at Baleshwar.

Another construction division is at Baleshwar under the Baleshwar Electrical Circle. This division has got three subdivisions, i. e., Sadar Construction Subdivision No. I, Baleshwar Sadar Construction Subdivision No. II, Baleshwar and Soro Construction Subdivision and eight sections.

Moreover, there are two divisions, one Electrical Investigation Division which works directly under the Orissa State Electricity Board, and Baleshwar Electrical Division which works under the control of the Superintending Engineer, Baleshwar Electrical Circle. The Electrical Investigation division is located at Baleshwar. This division is responsible to investigate potentialities for formulation of project reports for rural electrification in the district. The division consists of one subdivision, namely, Electrical Investigation subdivision at Baleshwar with two sections. The Baleshwar Electrical Division is responsible for maintenance of power supply to the entire district of Baleshwar. Under this division, there are five subdivisions of which two subdivisions are located at Bhadrak, and other three subdivisions are located at Baleshwar, Baleshwar and Soro and 21 sections. Each subdivision is under the supervision of an Assistant Engineer and each section is under the charge of a Junior Engineer. The divisions are in charge of Executive Engineers.

### **Veterinary Department**

The Director of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, Orissa, Cuttack is directly responsible for the control and management of the veterinary services and is the administrative head of the department. He exercises overall administrative control and supervision on the work of the staff. There are three ranges, such as, Central, Northern and Southern, each under the control of a Deputy Director. The district comes under the jurisdiction of the Deputy Director, Central Range.

The department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services was reorganised in August 1983. The Chief District Veterinary Officer functions as the administrative and technical head in the district. He looks after the improvement of livestock, poultry and prevention and treatment of their diseases. Three Assistant District Veterinary Officers like Assistant District Veterinary Officer (Poultry

Development), Assistant District Veterinary Officer (Artificial Insemination), Assistant District Veterinary Officer (Disease Control) and one Assistant District Dairy Officer are working under him to help in technical and administrative affairs.

There are three Subdivisional Veterinary Officers stationed at Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Nilagiri, 35 Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, 9 Additional Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, 2 Junior Veterinary Officers, and 239 Livestock Inspectors are there in charge of 32 veterinary dispensaries, 164 Livestock Aid Centres and Artificial Insemination Centres in the district.

Besides, there are three Key Village Blocks located at Bhadrak, Tihiri and Soro with 10 Key Village Units each, 3 Demonstration Poultry Units, one Auxillary Nutrition Programme Unit, one Rinderpest Eradication follow up scheme and a Fodder Marketing Centre at Remuna. A Co-operative Milk Union at Baleshwar has been established having 34 co-operative societies. A milk chilling plant has been established at Remuna.

### **Fishery Department**

The Fishery Department undertakes all the fisheries development activities in the district relating to marine, brackishwater and inland fisheries. The Director of Fisheries is in overall charge of the directorate with headquarters at Cuttack.

In the district, the Deputy Director of Fisheries (Marine North) is the supervising officer for northern zone relating to all marine fishery activities. The northern zone of marine comprises Baleshwar district only. To assist the Deputy Director in the district there are district officers in the cadre of Assistant Directors such as:

(1) The Assistant Director of Fisheries (Inland) is in charge of the entire inland fishery activities of the district supported by his technical staff in the district office, extension staff in the C. D. Blocks and field staff in different fish farms.

(2) The Assistant Director of Fisheries (Marine) is in charge of the entire marine fisheries development work of the district with the help of technical and field staff in the coastal areas. He also supervises the fishing operation at Chandipur and Chandbali. He is in charge of implementation of Marine Fishing Regulation Act. Under him there is a Superintendent of Fisheries, one Deputy Superintendent of Fisheries, 2 Fishery Inspectors alongwith other field staffs.

(3) The Chief Executive Officer, Fish Farmers Development Agency monitors the schemes relating to development of tanks for extensive and intensive culture of carps with subsidy from the agency and loan from different financial institutions.

(4) The Chief Executive Officer, Brackishwater Fisheries Development Agency in the district looks after the development of brackishwater fisheries and provides subsidy from Agency and arranges loan for the entrepreneurs for development of brackishwater fisheries. A pilot brackishwater fish farm has been established at Inchudi.

(5) The Project Officer, Kirtania Fishermen co-operative society monitors the operation of 23 numbers of mechanised gill-netters at Talasari near Chandaneswar supported by technical and field staff.

(6) The Project Officer, Rajlaxmi Fishermen co-operative society is in charge of the operation of 40 numbers of gill-netters at Chandipur fishing base. He is also responsible for collection of loan dues from beneficiaries and repayment to the financing banks.

(7) The Assistant Director of Fisheries, Maa Dhamuria Marine Fishermen co-operative society monitors the operation of 20 numbers of trawlers at Dhamara and is also responsible for collection of loan dues from the beneficiaries for repayment to the financing banks.

### **Forest Department**

The Chief Conservator of Forests, Orissa, Cuttack is responsible for the control and management of forests and is also the administrative head of department. For administrative purpose, the whole state is divided into eight forest circles, and each circle into a number of divisions.

In the district, the administration of the forest department is under the control of two Divisional Forest Offices located at Baripada in the adjoining district of Mayurbhanj and the other located at Chandbali. Two forest ranges of the Baripada Forest Division, viz., the Nilagiri Range and the Chandipur Range are located in the district having headquarters at Nilagiri and Baleshwar respectively. The headquarters of a section of the Betnoti Range (Mayurbhanj district) is located at Raibania in this district. In Nilagiri Forest Range there is a Range Officer, 9 Foresters, 33 Forest Guards and a Chowkidar. The Chandipur Range is under the control of a Range Officer having headquarters at Baleshwar. Under him there are 4 Foresters, 13 Forest Guards and a Bungalow Chowkidar. The Raibania Section of the Betnoti Range is manned by a Forester, 4 Forest Guards and a Bungalow Chowkidar.

Besides the routine management of forest wealth, the Baripada Forest Division has taken up casuarina plantation in the district of Baleshwar. The entire sea coast has been covered with casuarina which is acting as a great barrier for checking shifting of sand dunes, preventing casting on the nearby cultivated fields and giving a handsome revenue to the state exchequer.

The Chandbali Wildlife Conservation Division has been established since 1980. The divisional office located at Chandbali is in charge of a Deputy Conservator of Forests assisted by two Assistant Conservators of Forest, and one Research Officer. The division is divided into one territorial range, i.e., Kanika Range with headquarters at Chandbali. This division in the district has jurisdiction over Chandbali police-station, Banseda police-station and portions of Tihiri and Basudebpur police-stations. Jurisdiction of the Kanika Range covers both Cuttack and Baleshwar districts. This Forest Division has been created to protect the mangrove forests and for farming of crocodiles at Dangmal in Cuttack district. The conservation of sea-turtles at Gahirmatha in Cuttack district is also his responsibility.

Moreover, there is a Coastal Shelter Belt Afforestation Division with headquarters at Baleshwar to establish shelter belt plantation along the coast as barrier against cyclonic and tidal bore hazards. The division is in charge of a Divisional Forest Officer who is assisted by two Assistant Conservator of Forests, five Forest Rangers, 15 Foresters and 36 Forest Guards. The five Forest Rangers are stationed at Jaleshwar, Baliapal, Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Nilagiri.

### **Industries Department**

The Director of Industries, Orissa, Cuttack, is the administrative head of the Directorate. The district has a District Industries Centre headed by a General Manager. There are five divisions in the District Industries Centre, viz., (i) economic investigation and marketing (ii) machinery, equipment and raw materials (iii) credit (iv) cottage industries and (v) research, extension and training. Each functional division is headed by a Manager assisted by an Assistant Manager. Besides the Managers and Assistant Managers, other technical personnel working under the General Manager are 2 Economic Investigators, one Industrial Supervisor, one Sub-Assistant Registrar (Ind.), 4 Panchayat Industries Officers, 17 Industrial Extension Officers, one Salt Supervisor, one Coir Operator, one Junior Industries Inspector, 5 Instructors and other subordinate staffs.

The District Industries Centre looks after the establishment and promotion of small-scale industries, industrial potential survey, preparation of feasibility reports and financial assistance to industries and marketing of their products and other technical aspects.

### **Co-operative Department**

The Registrar Co-operative Societies, Orissa is the administrative head of the department. The main functions of this department in the district is to look after the administration of co-operative institutions and implementation of different schemes. Special emphasis on the needs of the agriculturists, the workers and the consumers becomes a vital factor for stability and for rapid economic development in the district.

The Divisional Office at Baleshwar with a Deputy Registrar at its head started functioning since December, 1969. The Baleshwar Division was created covering the whole of Baleshwar and Mayurbhanj districts. In August, 1978, Mayurbhanj district was bifurcated from Baleshwar Division.

Under the Deputy Registrar, there are two co-operative circles with headquarters at Baleshwar and Bhadrak established since 1948 and 1970 respectively. Each circle is in charge of an Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies. The jurisdiction of Baleshwar circle extends to 10 Blocks under Nilagiri and Baleshwar subdivisions and Bhadrak circle extends to all the Blocks of Bhadrak subdivision and Similia and Khaira Blocks of Baleshwar subdivision. The Deputy Registrar is assisted by one Regional Marketing Officer, one Sub Assistant Registrar, seven Inspectors of Co-operative Societies.

At the Community Development Block level, there are Co-operative Extension Officers and Additional Co-operative Extension Officers. Besides, there is an Audit Officer of Co-operative Societies at Baleshwar. There are other functional Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies for Industrial weavers, Fisheries, Milk and Poultry Societies who have been specially declared as Additional Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

At Baleshwar circle level there is one Assistant Registrar at the top having 7 other Sub Assistant Registrars, 15 Inspectors, one Extension Officer in each Block and other subordinate staff.

At the Bhadrak circle, there is one Assistant Registrar, five Sub Assistant Registrars, and 17 Inspectors.



A Central Co-operative Bank is functioning at Baleshwar along with its 17 branches located at different places of the district. There are two Urban Co-operative Banks operating one at Baleshwar and the other at Bhadrak, three Land Development Banks operating at subdivisional headquarters, i.e., Baleshwar, Nilagiri and Bhadrak. To provide integrated credit, supply marketing and other services to the people of tribal areas there are two large-sized Agricultural Multipurpose Co-operative Societies. To meet the credit needs of rural people, Primary Agricultural Co-operative Societies are the principal credit agencies operating in the district. Besides, five Regional Co-operative Marketing Societies, two wholesale co-operative stores, one at Baleshwar and the other at Bhadrak, 59 Primary Consumer Co-operative Stores, 3 Subdivisional House Building Co-operative Societies, one Town House Building Co-operative Society, 18 Labour Contract Co-operative Societies, 62 Employees Co-operative Societies, two Press Co-operative Societies, 4 Lift Irrigation Co-operative Societies, 2 Specialised Commodity Marketing Societies, one unemployed Engineers Co-operative Society in tribal area at Nilagiri, one Co-operative Union at Baleshwar, and four Regulated Market Committees at Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Jaleshwar and Chandbali have been established in this district.

### **Agriculture Department**

Improvement of agriculture, protection of crops from pests and insects, procurement and distribution of improved seeds and fertilisers are the main functions of the Agriculture Department. Demonstrations in the cultivator's fields are being conducted by this department to convince them about the modern farming methods.

The Director of Agriculture and Food Production, Orissa is the head of the directorate. The district comes under the administrative control of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Baleshwar Range.

There are two District Agricultural Offices in Baleshwar district with their headquarters at Baleshwar and Barapada in Bhadrak each being in charge of a District Agricultural Officer. The Baleshwar Agricultural district covers 7 Blocks in Baleshwar and 2 Blocks in Nilagiri subdivision, whereas Bhadrak Agricultural district is covered by 10 Blocks under Bhadrak subdivision. One Agricultural Extension Officer with a number of Village Agricultural Workers are posted in each Block for imparting better advice on agriculture to the cultivators. Additional District Agricultural Officers are also there in the office to check and supervise the work of Agricultural Extension Officers and Village Agricultural Workers under their jurisdiction.

Besides, subject-matter specialists, Agricultural Overseers, Agricultural Supervisors, Fieldman Demonstrators, etc., are there to assist District Agricultural Officers to carryout the agricultural programmes.

The Agriculture Department has been reorganised with effect from 1977. Under this reorganisation of agricultural extension set-up, a number of schemes are operating in the district. High Yielding Variety Programme, Jute Development Scheme, Manure Compost Scheme, Water Hyacinth Scheme, Horticulture Development Scheme and Coconut Development Scheme are operating in the district. 2 coconut nurseries, one Transit Nursery, one Fruit Nursery are there in the Baleshwar Agricultural District. Sale centres are there under the control of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Baleshwar. There are 7 seed farms in the district out of which 3 seed farms are under Baleshwar Agricultural district located at Balia, Bakarda and Sergar and four seed farms are under Bhadrak Agricultural district located at Bhadrak, Agarpada, Dhamnagar and Motto. All these seed farms are in charge of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Baleshwar.

### **Health Department**

The health department aims at providing curative, preventive and promotive health care for the community. The Chief District Medical Officer, Baleshwar is the administrative and technical chief for the health programme of the district. He is assisted by three Assistant District Medical Officers, one for medical, one for public health and one for family welfare at the district level. Each of them looks after the functions of their respective wings. The Assistant District Medical Officer (Medical) besides being in charge of the district headquarters hospital, is directly responsible for the administrative control of all dispensaries, medical aid centres, subsidiary health centres, public health centres and hospitals in the district.

The Assistant District Medical Officer (Public Health), Baleshwar deals with all the preventive aspect and control of various communicable diseases like cholera, typhoid, tetanus, diptheria, whooping cough, prevention of food adulteration, safe drinking water supply and drainage system and other miscellaneous functions like slum clearance, health education, etc. He is also the Additional District Registrar of births and deaths.

The Assistant District Medical Officer (Family Welfare) provides care, immunisation and education of the mothers and infants and is responsible for the implementation of family planning programmes and health education.

There is also one District Malaria Officer who looks after anti-Malaria work and a T. B. Officer at the district headquarters who is in charge of the T. B. Control Programmes. For leprosy, there are 4 Leprosy Eradication Units at Chandbali, Bhadrak, Jaleswar and Baleswar. Besides, there are specialists, Assistant Surgeons and a number of subordinate staffs posted at different hospitals and dispensaries in the district. At present, 10 hospitals, 19 Primary Health Centres, 29 dispensaries, 8 Medical Aid Centres and 31 Subsidiary Health Centres are functioning in the district.

### **Education Department**

The Education department is responsible to impart instruction to the public in general education, for the inspection and supervision of the educational institutions and in spreading education among the people of the backward areas of the district.

The state is divided into a number of Educational Circles, each being in charge of an Inspector of Schools. Education up to High English school standard is controlled by an Inspector of Schools for Baleswar Circle with jurisdiction covering the whole of the district. To assist him there are four District Inspector of Schools stationed at Baleswar (Baleswar-I, Baleswar-II) and Bhadrak (Bhadrak-I, Bhadrak-II), 5 Deputy Inspector of Schools and 48 Sub-Inspectors of Schools who are responsible for Primary, Middle English and Elementary Training schools including an Inspecting Maulavi and one Science Supervisor. The Inspector of Schools has got important duties besides inspection of schools, such as, holding of examination, implementation of physical education in schools, grants-in-aid, award of scholarships, national and state awards for teachers. There is one Farmers' Educational Literary Project at district headquarters with a Project Officer and District Organiser for Adult Education. Three Assistant Project Officers and 12 Supervisors of Adult Literacy Centres are also working under him.

### **Mining Department**

The Director of Mines is the administrative head of this organisation. Investigation of minerals in the mineral bearing areas of the state is the main function of the department. Besides, this department is also responsible for collection of mining revenue and use of minerals for various purposes. The state is divided into a number of circles, and Baleswar district comes under Baripada Circle with headquarters at Baripada (Mayurbhanj district). For the purpose of mineral administration, this district is under the Mining office at Baripada and in regard to mineral exploration

the district is under the control of the offices of the Central Zone, Kendujhar. Preliminary investigations for foundry sand at Chandipur, magnetite at Betei and Rangamatia, and soapstone at Nilagiri have been conducted.

### **Information and Public Relations Department**

Director, Information and Public Relations is the administrative head of this organisation. He exercises overall administrative control and supervision on the work of the staff belonging to Information and Public Relations Department.

At the district level a District Information and Public Relations Officer functions under the direct supervision of the District Collector. There is one Zonal Organiser under him to look after Radio Rural Forum work. Besides, there are three Subdivisional Offices located at Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Nilagiri under Subdivisional Information and Public Relations Officers. Each subdivisional office has one publicity wing and one reading wing. There is one post of Radio Inspector in each of the Subdivisional Offices. In 1987 the total strength of the staff in the district was thirty-one. The objective of the department is to popularise government policies and programmes beneficial to the general public. Specially the department attempts in every possible way through vigorous publicity to educate and awake the poor and downtrodden for joining in the mainstream of developmental activities initiated by the Government.

### **Tourism Department**

The general function of this department is to furnish information to the tourists about the places of interest and organise tourism stalls in different fairs and festivals.

The tourist office in Baleshwar with a Tourist Officer as its head started functioning from the year 1965 with other subordinate staff. The Tourist Counters at Bhadrak and Jaleshwar railway stations started functioning from the year 1982 each in charge of an Assistant Tourist Officer. The Panthanivas, Chandipur which was opened in 1966 has been transferred to the Orissa Tourism Development Corporation since 1980. A Panthasala at Panchalingeswar has been opened in June, 1985 for the tourists. A tourist lodge has recently been constructed for the tourists visiting Akhandalamani at Aradi.

### **Welfare Department**

The Welfare department looks after all round development of the weaker section of the society in the district particularly of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. The two special programmes under this department, i.e., I. T. D. A. and M. A. D. A. monitor the economic development of the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheduled Castes.

In the District Welfare Office, a District Welfare Officer, an Assistant District Welfare Officer and other subordinate staff look after the welfare matter of the district under the supervision of the Collector. There are 3 Assistant District Welfare Officers at the subdivisional level, i.e., in Baleshwar, Nilagiri and Bhadrak, under the supervision of the Subdivisional Officers. At the C.D. Block level there are Welfare Extension Officers under the supervision of the Block Development Officers. Besides, there is a Welfare Extension Officer for M. A. D. A. (Modified Area Development Approach) Programme in Jaleshwar Block and another for I. T. D. A. (Integrated Tribal Development Agency) Programme in Nilagiri Block. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes D. F. C. C. (Development Finance Co-operative Corporation) Programme has been started since 1980-81 in the district with a District Manager and other staffs.

### **Food and Civil Supplies Department**

The District Civil Supplies Office, Baleshwar was opened in 1943 under the administrative control of the Collector with a Civil Supplies Officer as the officer-in-charge. This office was formed to undertake the distribution of essential commodities to the consumers of the district. To assist the Civil Supplies Officer there is one Assistant Civil Supplies Officer, one Supervisor of Supplies, two Inspectors of Supplies in the District Civil Supplies Office. Three Subdivisional Civil Supplies Officers have been posted at Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Nilagiri. The Civil Supplies Office in Baleshwar is in charge of an Assistant Civil Supplies Officer with 3 Supply Supervisors, 16 Supply Inspectors and other subordinate staff. The Bhadrak Subdivisional Civil Supplies Office is in charge of an Assistant Civil Supplies Officer. He is assisted by 4 Supervisors, 16 Supply Inspectors and other subordinate staff. The Nilagiri Subdivisional Civil Supplies Office is functioning with an Assistant Civil Supplies Officer and 3 Inspector of Supplies.

Since 1981, with a view to regulating the flow of essential commodities and to counteract artificial scarcity, the Orissa State Civil Supplies Corporation (O.S.C.S.C.) was formed as a commercial

wing of the Food and Civil Supplies Department. Three Supervisors of Supplies, 11 Inspectors of Supplies are there to allot and distribute different essential commodities in the Notified Area Councils and Block areas.

The Civil Supplies Officer is acting as Civil Supplies Officer-*cum*-District Manager in the district headquarters, the Assistant Civil Supplies Officer is acting as Assistant Civil Supplies Officer-*cum*-Assistant District Manager in the subdivisional level. Six Supervisors of Supplies have been designated as Unit Officer to look after lifting of food grains and for supervising the distribution of essential commodities at Block level. 29 Inspectors of Supplies designated as Marketing Inspectors are in-charge of distribution of essential commodities at Block and N. A. C. levels. Moreover, one M. I. Officer, 6 M. I. Inspectors are posted to study the market price of different essential commodities and submit reports basing on which price index of essential commodities are prepared.

### **Statistical Department**

The Director, Bureau of Statistics and Economics is the head of this organisation. The whole state is divided into three Ranges, namely, Northern (headquarters, Sambalpur), Central (headquarters, Cuttack), and Southern (Headquarters, Brahmapur) each under the control of a Deputy Director. Baleshwar district comes under the jurisdiction of the Deputy Director of Statistics, Central Range, Cuttack.

The District Statistical Office with headquarters at Baleshwar came into being in 1957 with a District Statistical Officer as the controlling officer in the district. He is responsible for conducting different types of surveys relating to crop survey, national sample survey, price collection, annual survey of industry, economic survey, etc., in the district. Under the District Statistical Officer, there is an Additional District Statistical Officer, who looks after the execution of the E. A. R. A. S. Scheme (Establishment of an Agency for Reporting Agricultural Statistics). Besides, to assist the District Statistical Officer, there are Assistant District Statistical Officers, Statistical Investigators, Field Supervisors, Statistical Assistants, Junior Statistical Assistants, Field Inspectors and a number of subordinate staff.

### **Registration Department**

This department is concerned with the work of registering sale deeds and earns revenue through registration fees and stamps.

The Inspector-General of Registraton, Orissa, is the controlling officer of the Registration offices. Under his control there are three Deputy Inspector-General of Registration in different ranges called Northern Range, Central Range and Southern Range with headquarters at Sambalpur, Cuttack and Brahmapur, respectively. Baleshwar district comes under the jurisdiction of the Northern Range, Cuttack. The District Registration Office with a District Registrar and a District Sub-Registrar came into being in January 1822 with headquarters at Baleshwar. There are 16 Sub-Registrars under the control of the District Sub-Registrar. The Sub-Registration offices are located at Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Soro, Jaleshwar, Dhamnagar, Chandbali, Nilagiri, Basudebpur, Basta, Baliapal, Khaira, Tihiri, Bhandaripokhari, Jaleshwarpur, Dhusuri and Bant (at Barapada). The District Sub-Registrar is also declared as Marriage Officer.

### **Community Development Department**

Under the Community Development Department there are two Directorates at the state level, one for Community Development and Grama Panchayat and another for special projects. The Collector is in overall charge of the administration and activities of the Community Development Department in the district. He is assisted by other officers, viz., the District Development Officer, District Panchayat Officer, District Welfare Officer and the Project Officer.

The District Development Officer looks after execution and review of C. D. programmes along with the review and progress of other development departments in the district. He also deals with the Panchayat Samitis and their administration.

The District Panchayat Officer is in charge of administration of Grama Panchayats.

The District Social Welfare Officer is responsible for the social welfare activities in the district, such as, I. C. D. S., (Integrated Child Development Scheme), Mahila Samitis, Old-Age and Widow Pension, Disabled Pension and other allied programmes.

The District Rural Development Agency in the district was started in 1982 and is manned by a Project Officer to implement special projects like the anti-poverty programmes and programmes providing employment to rural poor. The Collector is the Chairman of this Agency.

At the subdivisional level, the Subdivisional Officer is in overall charge of supervision, execution and review of Community Development Programmes. He is assisted by one Subdivisional Panchayat Officer. He is also the sanctioning authority of old-age and widow pension.

There are 19 C. D. Blocks in the district and each Block is divided into several Grama Panchayats. The Community Development Block offices are located at Bhadrak, Chandbali, Dhamnagar, Remuna, Basta, Nilagiri, Khairā, Soro, Baleshwar Sadar, Basudebpur, Tihiri, Bhandaripokhari, Bant, Bahanaga, Oupada, Jaleshwar, Bhograi, Baliapal and Similia. There are I. C. D. S. (Integrated Child Development Scheme) offices at Remuna and Nilagiri. After introduction of Orissa Panchayat Samiti Act, the Block has been designated as Panchayat Samiti. In each Block, there is a Block Development Officer who is also the Executive Officer of the Panchayat Samiti. He is assisted by 2 Junior Engineers, one Grama Panchayat Extension Officer, 10 Village Level Workers, and a number of other staff for executing different Community Development programmes. Besides, other departments like Co-operation, Fishery, Industry, Education, Harijan and Tribal Welfare have posted Extension Officers in each Block to assist the Block Development Officer for execution of development programmes of their respective departments. The Sub-divisional Panchayat Officer at subdivisional level and Grama-Panchayat Extension Officer at Block level assist the subdivisional and Block Development Officer respectively for proper administration of Grama Panchayat.

### **Labour Department**

The Labour department is responsible to maintain peace in industry, to foster industrial harmony to increase production and productivity of the factory and other industrial establishments by different labour enactments.

The Assistant Labour Commissioner is the administrative head of the department in the district. He is functioning as Commissioner under Workmen Compensation Act, Payment of Wages Act and Minimum Wages Act in the district. He is also functioning as authority under Payment of Gratuity Act and Equal Remuneration Act for the districts of Baleshwar and Mayurbhanj. He is assisted by subordinate officers, viz., the District Labour Officer, Baleshwar; the Assistant Labour Officer, Baleshwar; the Assistant Labour Officer, Nilagiri; the Rural Labour Inspectors, etc.



The District Labour Officer and the Assistant Labour Officer are functioning as Inspectors under various Labour laws, Conciliation Officers under Industrial Dispute Act, Licensing Officer under Orissa Shops and Commercial Establishment Act, etc. The Rural Labour Inspectors are there to implement the Minimum Wages to agricultural workers in rural areas. Besides, they are also functioning as Inspectors under Minimum Wages Act, Bidi and Cigar Workers Act, Equal Remuneration Act, etc.

### **Commerce and Transport (Commerce) Department**

In the district there are four offices, viz. one subdivisional office of launch service at Chandbali, the Crew Training Institute of Chandbali, the Subdivisional Office of Gopalpur Port Project at Dhamara and Dhamara Fishing Harbour under the Commerce and Transport (Commerce) Department.

The launch service started functioning at Chandbali in 1979 under the supervision of one Assistant Director, one Supervisor, 6 Sorangs and 6 Launch Drivers and 14 Khalasis. It renders useful service at the time of flood and cyclone. The Ferry Services are paying in two different routes from Chandbali to Rajnagar and Chandbali to Aradi.

One Crew Training Institute headed by an Executive Engineer as Principal-cum-Superintendent has been established at Chandbali in 1979 with two Instructors, one Marine Foreman and five crews. The Institute undertakes refresher courses for 3 months and regular courses for 10 months.

The Subdivisional Office at Dhamara under supervision of an Executive Engineer, Gopalpur Port Project has been established on the 6th October, 1986 with one Assistant Engineer and 2 Junior Engineers to look after construction and maintenance of fishing bases and jetties. The Fishing Jetties are at Dhamara, Chandipur and Chudamani.

The Dhamara Fishing Harbour is managed by an Assistant Conservator and other subordinate staff for maintenance of the harbour and to facilitate loading and unloading of fish.

## CHAPTER XIV

### LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

#### History of Local Self-Government in the district

The system of Local Self-Government in India emanated from the idea of entrusting the people with the management of local affairs, there by developing their capacity for self-governance. Likewise in the district local self-governing institutions, viz., Baleshwar Municipality, Baleshwar District Board with two Local Boards under it, and Union Committees were constituted before independence.

At present, the district has one Municipality at Baleshwar, and five Notified Area Councils located at Bhadrak, Jaleshwar, Soro, Basudebpur and Nilagiri. These local bodies were constituted under the Orissa Municipal Act, 1950. The other local self-governing bodies are the Grama Panchayats and the Panchayat Samitis.

#### District Board

Outside the municipality of Baleshwar the administration of local affairs were vested in the District Board assisted by the Local Boards constituted for each subdivision and by the Union Committees formed at different places of the district.

The Baleshwar District Board was constituted in 1887 in accordance with the provisions of the Bihar and Orissa Local Self-Government Act, 1885. It consisted of 16 members of whom 5 were nominated by the Government and 8 were elected, while 3 were *ex officio* members. The Chairman of the District Board was the controlling authority of the District and Local Boards.

The District Board along with two Local Boards under it, was working according to the statutory rules prescribed under the said Act till the last day of March 1954. Then the Government took over the administration of the District Board and the Local Boards on the 1st January, 1954. These Boards under the management of Government continued till 25th January 1961 and were finally abolished on the introduction of Panchayat Raj from 26th January, 1961. The officer placed in charge of the District Board was designated as Special Officer. As per Notification No. 5-L. S. G. of the 1st January, 1954, the Special Officer was appointed by the Government to exercise powers, discharge the duties and

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\*Bhadrak is now a municipality.

perform the functions of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Board as provided in the Local Self-Government Act, 1935 (Bengal Act 11 of 1885).

The main duties of the District Board were to look after the education, medical relief, public works, pound, sanitation, vaccination, census, famine relief, communication and other miscellaneous matters in the rural areas.

The financial resources of the Board were derived from the local cess, pounds, civil works and government contribution. The local cess formed the chief source of income, but the total incidence of taxation was light, being only 1 anna to 10 paise (about 6 to 10 paise) per head of the population. In 1905-06 its income was Rs. 1,03,000, the principal receipts being Rs. 39,000 derived from local cess, Rs. 28,000 contributed by Government and Rs. 20,700 obtained from civil works.

The District Board was maintaining 494.27 km. (307 miles) of road, of which 64.40 km. (40 miles) were metalled and 429.87 km. (267 miles) were unmetalled. Besides, it had maintained a number of village roads with a length of 301.07 km. (167 miles). The expenditure on maintaining these roads in 1905-06 was Rs. 122, Rs. 18 and Rs. 16 per mile respectively. It had kept up 77 pounds under the control of a Pound and Ferry Inspector. Its educational expenditure was limited to maintaining 2 Middle schools and aiding 18 schools of the same class, 65 Upper Primary schools, 866 Lower Primary schools and 9 other schools including 5 schools for the education of the children of tribal people. It was maintaining 4 dispensaries and aiding 2 others. A Civil Hospital Assistant was appointed to visit the markets in the Government estates in the Bhadrak subdivision and afforded medical relief to the poorer classes. Altogether 6.4 per cent of the ordinary income of the Board was expended on medical relief and sanitation. It was also maintaining a veterinary dispensary at Baleshwar and when necessary, deputed the Veterinary Assistants to deal with outbreaks of epidemic diseases among cattle in the interior.

It is reported that the District Board was a most useful institution which worked very satisfactorily. It represented the best and most educated classes of the district and that influential persons of high standing were chairman and members of the District Board.

### Local Boards

The district had two Local Boards, namely, the Baleshwar Sadar Local Board and the Bhadrak Local Board. These Boards were under the control of the District Board and started functioning in the district from 29th March, 1887. The Local Boards exercised powers as were delegated to them by the District Board. The system of election which obtained in some parts of Bengal was not introduced and the members of these Boards were nominated by the Government. The Baleshwar Local Board consisted of 12 members, of whom 10 were nominated and 2 were ex officio members, and the Bhadrak Local Board had 11 members, all of whom were nominated. These Boards were working with the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman. The Primary education was under the control of these Boards. The functions of these bodies were mainly for maintenance of village roads. The Baleshwar Local Board in particular is said to have very little to do and was chiefly useful as a reserve from which to fill up vacancies in the District Board. The Local Boards were under the charge of the part-time gazetted officers.

### Village Chowkidari System

There was village Chowkidari system in the district. For the administration of the village police system, the whole district was divided into 140 unions (79 in Baleshwar and 61 in the Bhadrak subdivision) with an average of 11 Chowkidars in each union. The rural police force was composed of 1,549 Chowkidars and 140 Dafadars and there was one Chowkidar for every 691 inhabitants. The village Chowkidar was attached to a big village or a group of small revenue villages and his main job was to guard the village and to prevent crimes and to report births and deaths in the thana. Over a few Chowkidars, there was a Dafadar to supervise their work. The incidence of Chowkidari tax was 1-4 anna per head and the Chowkidar received a salary of Rs. 4 per month if he was not holding any Jagir land called Chowkidari Chakran land. The Orissa office of Village Police (Abolition) Act, 1964 came into force in the district with effect from 1st May, 1965 under which the Chowkidari system was abolished and the Jagir lands in their possession were settled with occupancy right in their favour. If he was not holding any Jagir land he was paid solatium equivalent to 12 months of his remuneration in addition to settlement of one acre of government land free of Salami. Where government Anabadi lands were not available even Gochar lands were settled with them on government orders. After the abolition of Chowkidari system, the beat constables were appointed throughout the district. But this system did not work satisfactorily. The beat constables were withdrawn and the Grama Rakhis have been appointed in their

place since 1967 under the Orissa Grama Rakshi Act, 1967. They are functioning as village police at present. In 1985, there were 1,216 Grama Rakshis in the district.

There were five Union Committees in the district, viz., Berhampur, Bhadrak, Jaleshwar, Remuna and Soro, all established in 1896. They each had an area of 16.10 square kilometres (10 square miles) and a population varying from 10,273 to 10,843. These Committees were practically defunct and existed only in name.

## **Municipality and Notified Area Councils**

### **Baleshwar Municipality**

Baleshwar Municipality is the only municipality in the district. It was established in 1877. The area of the local body was 8.05 square kilometres (5 square miles). Its affairs were administered by a Municipal Board consisting of 18 members, of whom 5 were nominated and 12 were elected, while 1 was an ex officio member. At present the municipality covers an area of 19.43 square kilometres (7½ square miles). Its population as per 1981 Census was 65,771 persons. Prior to 1973 the municipality had consisted of 20 wards. There was a Municipal Council consisting of 22 members for the management of the local body. Since the municipal election of 1973, it was divided into 22 wards and the number of councillors was 22 in 1986. Two wards were double-seated. Two seats are reserved, one for the Scheduled Castes and another for the Scheduled Tribes candidates. The last election of the municipality for 22 wards was held on the 15th May, 1981 and 22 Councillors were elected.

The financial resources of the Baleshwar Municipality are mainly derived from holding tax, light tax, octroi tax, water tax, latrine tax, tax on carts and carriages, fees from offensive and dangerous trade, cattle pounds, markets and shop-rooms, slaughter houses, medical institution, rent on municipal lands, fisheries, Town hall and auditorium hall, sale of compost, fish, saleable forms, coconut trees, interest on investment and conservancy receipts. Besides, the local body also receives grants from the State Government for its management.

The income and expenditure of the Baleshwar Municipality including Government grants in 1970-71 were Rs. 9,90,244 and Rs. 9,90,24 respectively which increased to Rs. 50,18,312 and Rs. 39,67,900 in 1980-81.

The statement given below indicates the annual income and expenditure of the local body from 1980-81 to 1985-86.

(in rupees)

Year	Income		Total	Expenditure
	Taxes and fees	Government grants, loans, etc.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1980—81	23,24,988.00	21,35,724 + 5,57,600	50,18,312	39,67,900
1981—82	35,04,255.00	19,77,981 + 4,50,000	59,32,236	59,31,336
1982—83	30,50,010.00	28,70,179 + 4,60,000	63,80,189	66,27,234
1983—84	31,46,760.00	23,47,894 + 7,00,000	61,94,654	61,27,549
1984—85	40,64,619.00	26,23,461 + 4,22,000	71,10,080	77,23,125
1985—86	41,53,904.00	51,61,370 + 2,53,000	95,68,274	80,47,654

The municipality has provided 2,575 street lights and 300 water taps within its area. The local body is maintaining three parks and 23 Upper Primary schools. It has constructed 346 kilometres length of road, out of which 93 kilometres black-topped, 85 kilometres metalled, 96 kilometres unmetalled and 72 kilometres earthen. At present 20 kilometres length of Pucca drain and 668 km. length of Kutcha drain are being maintained by it. The municipality spent a sum of Rs. 1,18,325/- in maintaining roads in 1978-79. It has employed 376 persons of which 156 constitute the conservancy staff. The number of total staff engaged to look after to the public health and sanitation of the town is 174. At present, there are 10 tanks and 115 wells under this municipality.

The local body has framed five bye-laws, viz., (1) the Rickshaw bye-law, (2) the Octroi bye-law, (3) the Hotel bye-law, (4) the Slaughter house bye-law and (5) the Scavenging bye-law. Except the Rickshaw and the Octroi bye-laws, others have not received approval of Government.

### **Town Water Supply**

A temporary water supply scheme was started in Baleshwar town in the year 1959 mainly with a view to fighting epidemics like cholera and bacillary dysentery with 50 public stand posts and G.I. pipe lines. Tube-wells were the chief source of town water supply which proved ineffective and insufficient with the growth of population. The Central Ground Water Board, Ranchi was moved for commissioning four deep tube-wells and in fact these four deep tube-wells have kept the town water supply constantly flowing. Till June 1986, 3,000 numbers of domestic connections and 300 hydrants have been provided by the local body. The municipality maintained 200 dug-wells and 57 tube-wells in 1986.

### **Bhadrak Notified Area Council**

The Bhadrak Notified Area Council\* was constituted on 8th May 1960. It had an area of 25.38 square kilometres (9.80 square miles) in 1961. The population according to the 1961 Census was 25,285. There was a nominated body of councillors consisting of 8 members to manage the affairs of the local body. The first election of this local body was held in 1963 and it then consisted of 15 wards with 15 councillors. One ward was reserved for the Scheduled Caste candidates. The second election to the Notified Area Council from 16 wards was held in 1967 and 15 councillors were elected. The third municipal election was conducted on 31st May 1973 and the number of councillors increased to 19. At present the Bhadrak Notified Area Council covers an area of 31.88 square kilometres (12 square miles). The population of the local body according to 1981 Census was 60,573. The fourth election of this local body was held on 31st January 1979. The number of councillors elected in this election was 19. One ward was reserved for the Scheduled Caste candidate. The last election of the N.A.C. was held on 20th November 1985 for 21 wards of which one was reserved for the Scheduled Castes.

The chief sources of income of the local body are holding tax, lighting tax, octroi tax, cattle pounds, taxes on carts and carriages and fees from offensive and dangerous trade. The local body also receives grants from the State Government for its management.

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\* Now declared a municipality.

The statement given below shows the annual income and expenditure of the Bhadrak Notified Area Council from 1980-81 to 1984-85.

(in rupees)

Year	Income		Total	Expenditure
	Taxes and fees	Government grants		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1980-81	17,93,543.45	8,40,43.00	26,33,966.45	24,21,220.08
1981-82	22,05,342.57	10,36,69.8.00	32,42,040.57	30,07,650.39
1982-83	19,22,647.22	11,80,903.00	31,03,550.22	29,70,682.57
1983-84	18,54,118.73	10,07,670.00	28,61,788.73	26,61,396.36
1984-85	17,91,489.54	14,20,672.00	32,12,161.54	30,01,910.70

The local body has provided 960 street lights and 75 hydrants in the town. It is maintaining 167.05 kilometres length of road of which 0.5 kilometres are black-topped, 77 kilometres metalled, 55 kilometres unmetalled and 35 kilometres earthen. It has also constructed 4.5 kilometres length of drain of which one kilometre Pucca and 3.5 kilometres are Kachha drain. The total number of staff employed by the local body is 127 of which 64 constitute the conservancy staff. There are 1,453 wells and 345 tube-wells under this Notified Area Council for drinking water. The staff to look to the public health and sanitation are 2 Sanitary Inspectors, 1 Disinfecter, 2 Vaccinators, 64 Sweepers including female sweepers, 2 Sweeper Jamadars and 1 Tractor driver.

The Bhadrak Notified Area Council has framed the octroi bye-law which has also been approved by the Government.



### Jaleshwar Notified Area Council

Jaleshwar Notified Area Council was constituted on the 15th April 1964. The area of this local body is 17.9 square kilometres. Its population as per 1981 Census was 13,147. The first election of Jaleshwar Notified Area Council was held on the 29th June 1973. It was divided into 9 wards. Two wards were double seated. Ward No. 1 and Ward No. VII were reserved for the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheduled Castes candidates respectively. The number of councillors elected was 11. The second election to the Notified Area Council from 14 wards was held on the 31st January 1979 and 14 councillors were elected. Wards No. VII and No. VIII have been reserved for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes candidates. On the 18th November 1985 the last election of the local body was held and 14 councillors were elected for 14 wards of which one is reserved for the Scheduled Castes and one for the Scheduled Tribes.

The sources of income of the local body are market fees, lease of Hat, tax on carts and carriages, fees from offensive and dangerous trade under section 290 of the Orissa Municipal Act, 1950 and cattle pound. It also gets grants from the State Government for its management.

The following is the year-wise income and expenditure of the local body from 1980-81 to 1984-85.

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(In rupees)

Year	Income			Expenditure
	Taxes and fees	Government grants	Total	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1980-81	91,501.71	2,12,965.00	3,04,466.71	2,89,751.11
1981-82	1,66,493.85	1,70,549.50	3,37,043.35	4,01,513.30
1982-83	1,54,914.42	1,18,108.50	2,73,022.92	2,90,650.21
1983-84	1,55,996.85	1,42,726.00	2,98,722.85	2,78,433.90
1984-85	2,32,964.15	1,48,700.00	3,81,664.15	2,35,011.78

The local body has provided 235 light points in the town. It has constructed 60 kilometres length of road. A sum of Rs.52,023 has been spent in maintaining roads in 1978-79. The total number of staffs employed by this Notified Area Council is 17 of which 8 constituted the conservancy staff. The local body is maintaining 130 tube-wells in the town for drinking water.

### Soro Notified Area Council

This Notified Area Council was constituted on the 12th February 1975. The present area of this local body is 23.88 square kilometres (9.22 square miles) and its population according to 1981 Census was 18,599. It is divided into 15 wards. One ward is reserved for Scheduled Castes. The first election to the Soro Notified Area Council was held on the 31st January, 1979 and 15 councillors were elected.

Besides Government grants, the financial resources of the Soro Notified Area Council are derived from taxes on carts and carriages, on offensive and dangerous trade and on other animals, fees from markets, rented shoprooms and tanks.

The annual income and expenditure of the Soro Notified Area Council from 1980-81 to 1985-86 are given below:

(in rupees)

Year	Income			Expenditure
	Taxes and fees	Government grants	Total	
1980-81	2,24,861.03	1,88,000.00	4,12,861.03	3,74,137.35
1981-82	3,80,417.24	1,52,000.00	5,32,417.24	5,06,347.20
1982-83	4,63,738.05	2,66,000.00	7,29,738.05	7,40,853.07
1983-84	4,85,466.35	1,94,000.00	6,79,466.35	8,54,054.06
1984-85	5,10,834.65	2,20,000.00	7,30,834.65	7,08,087.42
1985-86	6,21,406.86	5,39,809.00	11,61,215.86	10,44,823.25

The local body has provided 98 ordinary bulbs, 149 tube lights and 7 mercury vapour lights in the town. It is maintaining 147 kilometres length of road out of which 3.5 km. black-topped, 12km. metalled, 106 km. unmetalled and 25.5 km. earthen roads. A sum of Rs. 2,08,987.40 was spent in maintaining road in 1985-86. The local body has also constructed 3 kilometres length of Pucca drain in the town. The total strength of staff of this Notified Area Council

is 72. At present there are seven sweepers for clearing of drains and roads. It is also maintaining 272 tube-wells within its area for drinking water.

The local body has framed two bye-laws, namely, the Octroi bye-law and the Rickshaw bye-law. Both the bye-laws have been approved by the Government.

### **Basudebpur Notified Area Council**

The Basudebpur Notified Area Council was formed on the 24th November, 1974. There was a council of 17 members to manage the affairs of the local body. At present it has an area of 48 square kilometres (18.33 square miles). The population of the local body as per 1981 Census was 20,029. It is divided into 14 wards. One ward is reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates. The first election of this local body was held on the 19th November 1976 and 14 councillors were elected. On the 16th May 1984 the N. A. C. had its last election in which 14 councillors were elected.

The chief sources of income are derived from holding tax, light tax, cattle pound, licence fees from offensive and dangerous trade under section 290, tax on carts and carriages under section 131 of the Orissa Municipal Act, 1950, lease of fishery tanks, and weekly and daily markets. The local body also receives grants from the State Government for its management.

The following is the year-wise income and expenditure of the Basudebpur Notified Area Council from 1980-81 to 1985-86.

Year	Income (in rupees)			Expenditure (in rupees)
	Tax and fees	Government grants	Total	
1980-81	8,378-00	1,04,133-00	1,12,511-00	1,48,599-35
1981-82	36,065-81	1,27,000-00	1,63,065-81	1,96,110-87
1982-83	34,459-07	1,54,000-00	1,88,459-07	1,28,324-17
1983-84	41,629-02	1,34,000-00	1,75,629-02	1,39,831-00
1984-85	48,419-11	2,44,822-69	2,93,241-80	2,14,423-46
1985-86	51,045-78	5,33,200-00	5,84,245-78	2,87,872-30

The local body has provided 70 street light points in different places of the town. It maintains 188 kilometres length of road. The local body has spent an amount of Rs. 55,726-55 in maintaining

roads in 1985-86. It has constructed half a kilometre drain. The number of staff of this Notified Area Council is 9 out of which 4 are appointed for conservancy. At present there are 30 tanks, 98 tube-wells and 46 ponds under this Notified Area Council which are being used for bathing and drinking water for the public.

### **Nilagiri Notified Area Council**

The Notified Area Council, Nilagiri has been constituted on the 23rd February 1984. Its area is 11.59 sq. km. and population according to 1981 Census was 10,702. Election of the Notified Area Council has not been held. Sixteen councillors including the chairman have been nominated by the Government. The local body derives its income chiefly from leasing out tanks and issuing vehicle licences and other licences and government grants. During 1984-85 its total income was Rs. 1,49,098.29 and total expenditure amounted to Rs. 31,663.80. The Notified Area Council maintained 56 light points, 73.5 km. roads, 28 tanks, one pond, 38 wells and 50 tube-wells. Its total staff in 1984-85 were 5 including two sweepers.

### **General Election**

As mentioned earlier, the councillors of the Baleshwar Municipality and the Bhadrak, Soro, Basudebpur and Jaleshwar Notified Area Councils were elected every four years in accordance with section 41 (1) of the Orissa Municipal Act, 1950 read with section 12(1) thereof. The election of councillors to the municipality and the Notified Area Councils were suspended as per the provisions laid down in the Orissa Local Body (Suspension of Election) Act, 1962. In the beginning of 1963, the said Act was repealed and Government in Health (Local Self-Government) Department letter No. 5012 (13)-L. S. G., dated the 8th May 1963 decided to hold the pending election of the municipality and the Notified Area Councils.

The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of these local bodies were elected by their respective councillors from among themselves. The councils discharged the duties as provided under the Orissa Municipality Act, 1950, with regard to finance, public health, public works, education and any other special subjects relating to the purposes of the Act. The State Government have appointed Executive Officers in these local bodies to carry out day to day administration.

The chairman and the councillors/members of the Baleshwar Municipality and the Bhadrak, Jaleshwar, Soro and Basudebpur Notified Area Councils were elected directly by the voters of these

local bodies in accordance with the provisions of section 10 of the Orissa Municipal Act, 1950, as amended in the Orissa Municipal (Amendment) Act, 1979. The Chairman was elected from the entire Municipal areas and the councillors/members were elected from their respective wards. The Vice-Chairman was elected from amongst the elected councillors/members of the council.

The Chairman presides over the meetings of the council and discharges the duties and performs the functions as has been provided in the said Act or in the Rules framed thereunder or as is assigned to him by the council. The State Government appoints an Executive Officer, Municipal Engineer, Health Officer and such other officers as may be necessary to carry out the works.

### **Town Planning**

There are six towns in the district, viz., Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Jaleshwar, Soro, Basudebpur and Chandbali. Master Plans for only Baleshwar and Bhadrak have been prepared by the Town Planning Unit, Baleshwar functioning under the Director of Town Planning Organization, Orissa, Bhubaneswar. Steps are being taken for the preparation of Master Plan for Basudebpur town. The other towns of the district are not planned.

The Special Planning Authority, Baleshwar has taken up various development schemes for people of different income groups under Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (I.D.S.M.T.) programme. It prepared sites and services schemes for developing house sites at Kalidaspur and Firingipatna as remunerative schemes. A total of 246 house sites of different sizes were constructed and handed over to the applicants. The total cost of these house sites amounted to Rs. 18.2 lakhs. Shopping complexes have been developed near station square and Sadar police-station of Baleshwar town. A total of 53 shop-rooms at a cost of Rs. 19.15 lakhs were built and given to the applicants. Another shopping complex under the flyover bridge on the S. E. railway at Remuna level crossing has been started with an estimated cost of Rs. 22.6 lakhs.

### **Zilla Parishad, District Advisory Council, District Development Advisory Board, District Development Board**

With the Zilla Parishad Act, 1959, as amended in 1960 and 1961, coming into force; a Zilla Parishad for the district of Baleshwar was constituted on the 1st September 1961. The organization was an advisory body at the district level to advise the Government on all developmental matters relating to the district. It was

entrusted with the task of approving the programme and the budget of the Panchayat Samitis in the district and distributing amongst them funds received from the Government for expenditure on various development works. This institution, which was also supervising the activities of the Samitis at Block level, served as the apex of the three-tier system of democratic decentralisation.

The Zilla Parishad consisted of both official and non-official members. All the district level officers connected with the developmental works of the district were included as official members. The non-official members were the Chairman of each Panchayat Samiti, the chairmans of the municipality and Notified Area Councils with a population of more than twenty thousands, Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Zilla Parishad and the President of the Central Co-operative Bank. Besides, there was a lady member elected by the non-official members. Members of the State Legislative Assembly and the House of the People whose jurisdiction come under the district were entitled to participate in the meetings of the Parishad, but they had no right to vote.

The Zilla Parishad was replaced by the District Advisory Council from 1st November 1968. The District Advisory Council consisted of the following members :

- |   |  |                 |
|---|--|-----------------|
| 1 | Collector of the district  | Member-Convener |
| 2 | M. L. A.s and M. P.s (Lok Sabha) whose constituency covers the whole or a part of the district and M. P.s (Rajya Sabha) whose place of residence is in the district. | Member          |
| 3 | Chairman of all the Panchayat Samitis within the district.   | Member          |
| 4 | President of the Central Co-operative Bank in the district.  | Member          |
| 5 | Chairman of all the Municipal Councils of the district.  | Member          |
| 6 | President of the Land Mortgage Bank of the district.   | Member          |
| 7 | Members of the District Development Committee.   | Member          |
| 8 | Any representative of the public as may be notified by the Government from time to time.   | Member          |

The functions of the District Advisory Council were to advise the Government regarding developmental works and other activities referred to it by the Government from time to time and also to consider and advise the Government as to how best the developmental activities could be expeditiously and effectively executed and to suggest ways and means to remove bottle-necks in the execution of developmental works.

Again the State Government in Planning and Co-ordination Department, Resolution No. 16636, dated the 14th November 1970, superseded the District Advisory Councils and constituted the District Development Advisory Boards. Besides all the members of the superseded Council, the members of the District Development Committee and any representative of the public declared as member by the Government from time to time, were included in the Board. This apart, all Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Speaker and Deputy Speaker are entitled to nominate any person from their constituencies to represent them in the Board. The Collector of the district was the Chairman and the District Development Officer was the Member-Secretary of the Board.

All the functions of the District Advisory Council were entrusted to the District Development Advisory Board. In addition, the Board was to help the district authorities in enlisting the participation of the people for the implementation of schemes like growing of high yielding varieties of crops, multiple cropping, use of fertilizers, water resources, management, etc., where such co-operation and participation were essential for the smooth working of the schemes.

The District Development Advisory Board was abolished on the 8th July 1974 and the present District Development Board was constituted on the 9th July 1974. The Collector of the district is the Chairman and the M. Ps. (Lok Sabha) and M. L. As. whose constituency covers a part or whole of the district, Members of Rajya Sabha whose place of residence is in the district, Chairman of all the Panchayat Samitis of the district, Chairman of the municipality and Notified Area Councils of the district, President of the Central Co-operative Bank in the district, President of the Land Mortgage Bank in the district, Members of the District Development Committee and any representative of the public, as may be notified by the Government from time to time are members of the District Development Board. Besides, Ministers, Ministers of State, Deputy Ministers, Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Member of Parliament may nominate any person from their constituencies to represent them in the Board.

The functions of the District Development Board are, (i) to advise the Government in the formulation of development programmes at the district level, (ii) to review the progress of development activities and to suggest measures for the expeditious implementation of various programmes and (iii) to assist district authorities in securing people's participation in the implementation of the local development works.

### **Panchayat Samitis**

Panchayat Samitis, the second-tire in democratic decentralisation were established throughout the state in accordance with the provisions of the Orissa Panchayat Samitis Act, 1959. In the district the Samitis were constituted on the 26th January 1961. At present there are 19 Panchayat Samitis in the district as per list in the Appendix 1 which includes within 10 to 28 Grama Panchayats. The Panchayat Samiti is co-terminous in regard to its area with the Block administration created by the Government in the Community Development Department.

Each Panchayat Samiti consists of both official and non-official members. The official members are the Block Development Officer and the officers of various departments of the State Government ordinarily stationed at the Block level. The non-official members include the Sarpanchs of the Grama Panchayats and a woman member. The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are given due representation in the Samiti. The Chairman is elected directly by the Panchayat members and the Sarpanchs. The non-official members who hold office for three years elect Vice-Chairman from among themselves. Bi-monthly meetings are held regularly. Official members can take part in the discussions of the Panchayat Samiti meetings along with the non-official members, but are not entitled to vote.

The planning, execution and supervision of all the development programmes in the Block area are done by the respective Panchayat Samitis. The Samiti looks after the spread of primary education, management of trusts and endowments which the Government may entrust to it, and registration of births and deaths. It supervises the work of the Grama Panchayats within its jurisdiction. The Block Development Officer is the Executive Officer of the Samiti. He is also its drawing and disbursing Officer. The main sources of income of the Samitis are the government grants and loans.



The Community Development and Rural Reconstruction Department is the principal agency for providing funds to the Panchayat Samitis. The allotment of this department (in the form of Kendu leaf grants) to the Panchayat Samitis of the district in 1985-86 amounted to Rs. 1,70,430.00 for different development works including anti-poverty schemes.

Besides, the Revenue Department gives grants from collection of cess and places at its disposal funds for alleviation of distress and labour intensive works in times of natural calamities like drought, flood, cyclone, etc.

### **Grama Panchayats**

Grama Panchayat is the primary unit in the democratic decentralisation. Some Grama Panchayats were constituted in the district with the introduction of the Orissa Grama Panchayat Act, 1948, to establish and develop local self-government in the village communities and to make better provision for their administration. The Grama Panchayat administration was extended all over the district covering all the villages in 1954-55. These institutions are governed under the Orissa Grama Panchayat Act, 1964. Each Grama Panchayat comprising one or more than one village is divided into a number of wards. Election of Sarpanch, Naib Sarpanch, members and the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes members are conducted according to the provisions of the Orissa Grama Panchayat Election Rule, 1965. According to this rule, in every three years one member from each ward is elected to the Grama Panchayat on the basis of adult franchise. The Sarpanch is directly elected by the voters of the Grama Panchayat. But the Naib Sarpanch is elected from among themselves by the Panchayat members. The Sarpanch is the head of the Grama Panchayat. He is assisted by a Naib Sarpanch. According to the Orissa Grama Panchayat Act, 1964, the executive powers of the Grama Panchayat for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the Act, are exercised by the Sarpanch. He is assisted in his duties by a Secretary appointed under the provisions of the Act, and such other officers and assistants for the Grama Sasan as may be necessary. The office of the members of the Grama Panchayat including that of the Sarpanch and the Naib Sarpanch, is honorary. In areas where the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes population of the Grama Panchayat is more than 5 per cent, provision has been made to elect a Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes candidate. In 1985-86, there were 337 Grama Panchayats in the district which included 166 in Baleshwar subdivision, 139 in Bhadrak subdivision and 32 in Nilagiri subdivision.

The Grama Panchayat continue to function as the main agency for the implementation of all local development works and for mobilising manpower in rural areas. Development activities of different departments of the Government which are co-ordinated at the Block level also continue to be executed through the agency of the Panchayats. Besides, they also supervise and co-ordinate distribution of essential commodities through fair-price shops.

The functions of the Grama Panchayat include looking after village sanitation, supply of drinking water, maintenance of village roads and wells, ferry ghats, cattle pounds, providing street lights and implementing different agricultural schemes. Pisciculture is one of the most lucrative schemes in augmenting internal resources of Panchayats.

Besides Government grants and loans, the other sources of income of the Panchayats are the Panchayat taxes, and collection from cattle pounds, rent from markets, vehicle registration fees, and ferries and *ghats*. The expenditure incurred by the Grama Panchayats include mainly money spent on construction and maintenance of village roads and buildings, education, village sanitation, pisciculture, repair of wells and tanks and other remunerative schemes and for paying salary to staff and other contingent expenses.

The annual income and expenditure of the Grama Panchayats of the district from 1980-81 to 1984-85 are given below :

Year	Kendu leaf grants (in Rs.)	Total other grants	Total income (including Government Grants)	Total Expenditure (in Rs.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1980-81	16,548.00	13,96,171.00	15,54,734.72	11,64,510.54
1981-82	16,548.00	14,68,433.22	24,35,825.37	15,12,192.83
1982-83	60,984.00	21,33,475.00	31,32,829.95	14,44,606.24
1983-84	60,948.00	3,13,602.55	13,27,556.12	15,85,504.80
1984-85	60,948.00	9,36,651.22	22,77,355.73	20,19,214.16

## APPENDIX I

Sl. Number	Name of the Panchayat Samitis	Headquarters
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	.. Baleshwar	Baleshwar
2	... Remuna	Remuna
3	... Bahanaga	Bahanaga
4	... Jaleshwar	Jaleshwar
5	.. Bhograi	Bhograi
6	.. Basta	Basta
7	... Baliapal	Baliapal
8	.. Soro	Soro
9	... Khaira	Khaira
10	.. Similia	Similia
11	.. Bhadrak	Bhadrak
12	.. Bant	Bant
13	... Basudebpur	Basudebpur
14	.. Tihiri	Tihiri
15	.. Chandbali	Chandbali
16	.. Dhamnagar	Dhamnagar
17	.. Bhandaripokhari	Bhandaripokhari
18	.. Nilagiri	Raj Nilagiri
19	.. Oupada	Oupada



## CHAPTER XV

### EDUCATION AND CULTURE

#### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Baleshwar is one among the few districts of Orissa which is comparatively educationally advanced in the state. It is, however, a very difficult task to throw light on the state of education of the district during the ancient and medieval periods. The temples and other ruins of ancient civilization evince testimony that the district had been a centre of Hinduism, Buddhism, Saivism, Saktism and Vaishnavism. Education through religious teachings was imparted by the priests and Pandits in the temples and Ashrams.

During the mediaeval period, literary education gradually received importance. Aristocrats of the period gradually became conscious of education. The Maths, Chatsalis and Tols started imparting education on Three Rs, i.e., reading, writing and simple arithmetic. But here also moral education was the goal and the Three Rs, the means to that end. The use of paper was not known then but the teachers knew the art of preserving knowledge concerning religion and literature, etc., on palm-leaf Pothis. Towards last part of the mediaeval age the Muslim and Mughal rulers opened a few Muslim institutions for imparting religious instructions from the Koran.

#### BEGINNING OF WESTERN EDUCATION

The Christian Missionaries were the pioneers of modern education in Baleshwar. Though spread of Christianity was their primary intention, yet they took active steps for the development of education. In February 1938, the American Baptists established a baptistry at Baleshwar. They founded an English School in 1853. High English school was started in 1893 by the American Missionaries. In the year 1906, the foundation of the Technical School was also laid by the said Mission.

The attempts of the missionaries to educate their Christian converts failed to produce any positive reaction on the people due to orthodoxy. Schools which were first restricted to the Christian community were made open for others also. But few students came in. The occupation of Orissa by the Britishers in 1803 gave an impetus to education in Orissa as also in Baleshwar. Baleshwar was the seat of brisk maritime activities till the early part of the 19th century. The East India Company

established its trade centres on the bank of the navigable river Burhabalanga. The East India Company was later followed by the French, Danish and the Dutch establishments of the same pattern. A good number of people were in demand for maintaining their accounts and doing clerical jobs which provided employment opportunities for the local people for which they felt the necessity of English education and became interested for the same. Late Raja Baikunthanath Day Bahadur of Manikhamba became the champion of English education and founded an English School at Barabati in the centre of Baleshwar town under his patronage. Subsequently the school was shifted to Malikaspur and was raised to the Entrance standard in the year 1853. In 1838 the British Government for the first time felt interested for the spread of education in Orissa and as per Lord Auckland's minute of 1843-46 it was resolved to establish Zilla School at district headquarters. The first High English school was thus started by the Government on the 1st November 1853, which now goes by the name of the Baleshwar Zilla School. The Wood's Despatch in 1854 gave incentive for the expansion of education and Orissa was made into a division under the Education department of the Bengal presidency. A Deputy Inspector of Schools was posted for Orissa with his headquarters at Baleshwar.

There was vehement opposition in the beginning to the schools opened by the British Government by the orthodox cross-section of the general public. Nevertheless amidst such opposition English education slowly made its way.

It was noticed that in the year 1848-49 there were only 9 schools with a total attendance of 279 pupils. During the next decade the number of schools increased to 29 and of pupils to 1,046. The number of schools and pupils therein further went up to 63 and 4,043 respectively towards 1868-69.

The non-availability of trained teachers also seemed to be an obstacle for the spread of education in the early state. Till 1869 there was no institution to train teachers for which a great difficulty was encountered in establishing and maintaining schools. The Government took a notable step of opening a Normal school in Cuttack town in the year 1869 wherein young men were being imparted instructions with the object of qualifying them to become teachers. On completion of the course, these qualified youths scattered over the villages of the state and tried to bring education home to the peasantry. Each teacher collected as much as he could in cash or kind from the villagers who sent their children

to his school. A paltry weekly stipend was also given to him from the Government as long as he was discharging his duties sincerely.

The number of schools in Baleshwar gradually increased due to Government's initiative. In the year 1870-71, the number of recognised schools increased to 28 and the pupils to 1,252. Here it can be said that during 1856-57 the number of such institutions was only 2 and number of students was 99. Sir George Campbell's scheme of educational reform came into operation in 1872. The grant-in-aid rules were extended to hitherto unaided schools. Many indigenous institutions were brought under the departmental system and the number of inspected schools further increased by 1875 to 217 and the number of pupils to 5,972. More remarkable was the advance of education in the next decade and towards 1885 the strength of the pupils rose to 37,707 in 2,305 public institutions. The number of schools was thus 82 times and that of scholars 30 times as great as in 1871. But this extraordinary progress of education was temporary and it could not be maintained in the following decade. The cause of this dismay may squarely be attributed to the failure of crops in several years. In 1895 the number of schools fell to 2,156 and the pupils to 35,827. On the 31st March 1906 it was found that the number of public institutions slightly increased to 2,753. There was a considerable increase in the pupil's strength which further rose to 37,687. Apart from these there were 72 non-public schools with a student strength of 644.

In the later part of the nineteenth century two Middle Vernacular schools were established in Baleshwar town. Of these two, one was called the Victoria Jubilee School and the other Bedon Madrasa, which was later named as Hazi Nasiruddin Middle English school. The medium of instruction was Oriya in the former and Persian in the latter. By this time another Madrasa was established at Bhadrak for the education of the Muslim children in Urdu medium which maintained the Middle Vernacular standard.

During the first part of the 20th century two more aided High Schools, one at Bhadrak and the other at Lakshmannath were established with the minimum grant-in-aid from the Government.

The Vernacular schools suffered as they failed to cope with the demand of the times. By 1925 the number of Middle English school and the Middle Vernacular schools was 25. But there was no numerical change in the High English schools. The High English schools were affiliated to the Calcutta University.

Private enterprise was the guiding factor in the field of Primary education. The system of grant-in-aid always added an impetus. There were 1839 indigenous schools at the primary stage in 1915 and the figure came down to 1673 by 1920. The number of such schools fluctuated from year to year.

In the last three decades of the 19th century there was a vigorous movement led by Raja Rajendralala Mitra and other eminent Bengalis for substituting Oriya language by Bengali in Orissa on the ground that Oriya was not an independent language but a mere dialect and an offshoot of Bengali language. Arguments were further advanced in favour of restricting the study of Oriya in elementary schools on the basis that the language was not rich and it did not have standard printed books to be prescribed as text books. Baleshwar being the neighbouring district of Midnapore (in West Bengal) was directly affected by this language agitation and became its centre. Thanks to the noble efforts of eminent Oriyas like Fakir Mohan Senapati and Radhanath Ray, the two gifted sons of the district and many others who suitably combated the argument levelled against Oriya language and proved beyond doubt that Oriya was a modern Indian language - complete and prosperous like any other sister languages in India. John Beams, the famous linguist who was the Collector of Baleshwar from 1869 to 1873 was strongly against this movement and wrote as follows in his *Manual of District of Baleshwar*, the historical portion of which was printed in the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal*. "That they are not an offshoot of the Bengali is proved by the fact that their language was already formed as we now have it, at a period when Bengali had not yet attained a separate existence and when the deltaic portion of Bengal was still almost uninhabited. So that in fact they could not have sprung from the Bengalis simply because there was no Bengalis to spring from.

Numerous as are the allusions in early Oriya history to the north-western and western parts of India, and frequent as their expeditions to the south, it is remarkable that there is nowhere in all their annals more than an obscure occasional mention of Bengal and then even as a far off inaccessible place. The similarity between the languages is not by any means so great as some Bengali writers have sought to make out, and what similarity there is, is due to the fact that they are both dialects of the eastern or Magadhi form of Prakrit". Finally the order of the Lt. Governor of Bengal passed on to the D. P. I. Bengal was as follows :—

"It is only too evident from what has been reported that the tendency among those who have any influence in the matter of education is and has been, to encourage Bengali learning to the

almost entire exclusion of the native language (Oriya). Your proposal, therefore, to continue the study of Oriya simply in the elementary schools and not beyond is, in the Lt. Governor's opinion, not only against the wishes of the natives of Orissa, but it is opposed to the policy which he considers the Government is bound on every consideration to follow, viz., that our chief care should be to give to the Oriyas an opportunity of learning their own language, and the means for this end should be exclusively supplied".

Thus the study of Oriya language was introduced in schools and the long drawn-out strife centring this issue was set at rest. The children had their education through the medium of their mother tongue as before. As a result, a few Bengali Primary schools started in north Baleshwar gradually disappeared.

Thereafter there was steady growth of education in the district. On 1st April, 1936 when the province of Orissa was created the percentage of literacy in the district was only 6. The following table shows a picture of education in the district at the time of creation of the province of Orissa.

Type of Institutions	Number of institutions	Number of students	Number of teachers
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
High English schools ..	4	740	50
Middle English/Middle Vernacular schools.	26	1710	104
Primary schools (Boys) ..	511	16037	1276
Primary schools (Girls)	15	422	18
Sanskrit Primary schools ...	6	162	9
Maktabas ...	8	216	8
Madrasa ...	2	52	5
Tols ...	10	142	13
Elementary Training schools	5	50	10
Technical school ..	1	40	8

#### LITERACY :

As per Census of 1901, 7.8 per cent (15.7 males and 0.4 females) of the population of the district could read and write. At the time of creation of the province of Orissa, i.e., on the 1st April 1936 the percentage of literacy of the district was reported to be 6 per cent. It is only after independence that the percentage of literacy in the country as a whole and so also in the district took an upward trend. In the Census of 1951 the per-



centage of literacy was at 23.7 per cent composed of 20.3 male and 3.4 female. There was an increase in the percentage of literacy by 5.8 per cent during the next decade, i.e., 1961 (Census) which rose to 29.5 per cent comprising 23.2 per cent males and 6.3 per cent female as against the state average of 17.4 per cent and 4.3 per cent respectively. Thus it is clear that the district had better literacy than the state average. Among males, the percentage of literacy was 45.8 whereas among females it was 12.7. Towards 1971 the position was still better and the rise of literacy was 4.2 per cent more during the decade. 33.7 per cent of the population of the district returned literate. For males it was 47.5 per cent and for females it was 19.5 per cent. In the following decade the literacy figure further went up. According to 1981 Census the percentage of literacy in the district was recorded at 41.84 which was third in the state of Orissa, with Puri district at the highest placed with 45.71 percentage of literacy followed by Cuttack with 45.33 per cent. The percentages of literacy among males and females were 55.07 and 25.32 respectively as per the 1981 Census.

#### Number of Literates

The census test of literacy is the ability to write a letter to a friend and read the answer to it. The district of Baleshwar had more literates compared to other two districts, i.e., Cuttack and Puri of Orissa in the province of undivided Bihar and Orissa. The following table shows the progress of education and the number of literates in the district and so also Orissa portion of undivided Bihar-Orissa in the censuses from 1881 to 1931.

#### Number of Literates per 10,000

All Ages 10 and Over					
Year	Baleshwar		Orissa		
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
1881 ..	1,680	20	1,470	40	
1891 ..	1,360	40	1,440	30	
1901 ..	2,038	51	1,964	54	
1911 ..	1,802	64	1,699	65	
1921 ..	1,901	91	1,873	99	
1931 ..	2,017	111	1,862	116	

The number of literate persons in the district at the Census of 1951 was 2,52,601 made up of 2,24,424 males and 28,177 females. More attention was paid in spreading education in the district in the

years after independence resulting in more number of literates coming out every year. Increasing number of educational institutions are being opened in different parts of the district. More facilities for education are also made available to the people. According to the 1961 Census the total number of literates in the district figured at 4,17,527 of whom 3,28,489 were males and 89,038 females. Thus there was more than 50 per cent increase in this field. In the urban areas out of 91,905 people (49,784 males and 42,121 females) 35,942 persons (26,000 males and 9,942 females) were found to have been literate. In the rural areas out of total population of 13,24,018 (6,67,556 males and 6,56,462 females), 3,81,585 persons (3,02,489 males and 79,096 females) were returned literate. In the rural areas less persons were found to be literate while compared to the figures in the urban areas. According to their educational standard the total educated people in the district as a whole could be break up as 3,57,144 persons (2,76,114 males and 81,030 females) literates (without educational level), 50,166 persons (42,617 males and 7,549 females) Primary or Junior Basic and 10,217 persons (9,758 males and 459 females) Matriculation and above.

As per the Census of 1971 the total population in the district was 18,30,504 persons comprising 9,28,342 males and 9,02,162 females of which only 6,17,105 persons (4,40,967 males and 1,76,138 females) were found to be literate and 12,13,399 people (4,87,375 males and 7,26,024 females) were illiterate. More than fifty per cent of the male population were found to be educated whereas education among women was much less.

Towards 1981 the number of literate persons in the district has increased. Out of a total population of 2,252,808 persons (1,139,355 males and 1,113,453 females) 947,598 persons (632,905 males and 314,693 females) were returned to be literate. However, more than half of its population were found to be illiterate. The statement given below shows the level of education of the literates in the district as per the Census of 1981.

Educational level (1)	Persons	
	Males (2)	Females (3)
Literate (without educational level)		
(i) Non-formal	17,771	6,441
(ii) Formal	214,474	132,081
Primary	180,440	106,028

Educational Level (1)	Persons	
	Males (2)	Females (3)
Middle	135,051	54,331
Matriculation/Secondary	48,908	10,791
Higher Secondary/Intermediate/Pre-University	14,079	2,259
Non-technical diploma or certificate not equal to degree	45	24
Technical diploma or certificate not equal to degree	6,605	785
Graduate and above	15,531	1,952

#### SPREAD OF EDUCATION AMONG WOMEN

Education of girls in the district was initiated by the missionaries. The American Baptist Mission founded a Primary School for girls as early as 1839 which was converted to Middle English school in 1896. In 1939 the school ultimately reached the status of a High English school for girls. There was another Girls' Primary School at Barabati in Baleshwar town, managed by the Government. The institution was raised to a Middle English school in 1943 and subsequently into a High English school. The Hemaprava Girls' Middle English school at Soro and the Pohopsing Girls' Middle English school at Bhadrak were founded in 1940.

In the year 1904-05 there were 128 girls' school and the number of girl students receiving instruction therein was 3,884. Of these schools, three, one at the district headquarters, another at Jaleshwar and the third at Santipur, all under the management of the Baptist Mission, taught up to the standard of Middle Vernaculars; three were Upper Primary schools and 122 were Lower Primary schools. These Lower Primary schools included sixteen *zanana* classes taught by peripatetic Christian teachers, working under the superintendence of missionary ladies, who instructed 252 Hindu ladies in their homes.

In the beginning of the 20th century, increased number of girl students attended educational institutions owing to the popularity of co-education. In this respect the district occupied the highest position among Bengal districts as appears from O'Malley's Bengal gazetteer. The following remarks may be quoted from the

Government Resolution on the General Administration report of the Orissa Division for the quinquennial period 1900-01 to 1904-05: "The Lieutenant Governor is gratified to note that remarkable progress has been made in education among girls in recent years. This has been particularly marked in Balaswar. At the close of the last quinquennium the number of girls under instruction in that district was given as 2,005. In 1904-05 the number had risen to 7,462 or by almost 350 per cent".

Education for girls received further impetus in the period after independence. To encourage girl's education additional facilities are being made available for them. Girls are offered special educational facilities at all stages. For looking after the girl students in the schools, School Mothers were appointed. There was free supply of dress to girl students who regularly attended the schools. Lady teachers were also appointed in the institutions through sympathetic selection methods. In the schools the girls are eligible for free education. Only those whose parents were assessed to Income-tax and Agricultural Tax are charged with fifty per cent of the tuition fees. Girls at the college stage pay fifty per cent of the tuition fees, except those whose parents are subject to payment of Income-tax. These measures have brought positive results in the field of women's education in the district. Tuition fees for all girls up to post-graduate level has been waived from the academic year 1987-88. The number of educational institutions has also gone up. There is co-education at all stages. Development of women education in the district could be well ascertained from the statement given below which shows the number of girl students prosecuting studies in different educational institutions recognised by the Government in the years 1982-83 to 1985-86.

Year	Primary	Middle English	Secondary
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1982-83	123,397	22,981	18,915
1983-84	143,633	24,834	19,182
1984-85	169,429	26,777	19,504
1985-86	163,432	28,879	20,503

At present there are three women's college in the district and the total strength of women students in these institutions is 1,298 during 1986-87. The table given below shows the growth of female literacy in the district as per the censuses of 1951, 1961, 1971 and 1981.

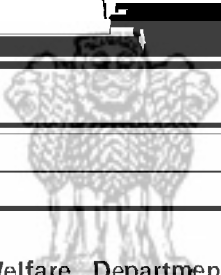
Census	Percentage of female literacy
1951	6.9
1961	12.7
1971	19.5
1981	28.26

#### **SPREAD OF EDUCATION AMONG BACKWARD CLASSES AND TRIBES**

Right from the days of yore till the dawn of our independence people belonging to the backward classes and tribes constituted the most neglected section of the society. They were handicapped socially, economically and educationally. Spread of education had little impact on them. Because of their socio-economic condition they were, and are still to some extent, apathetic towards education. They prefer their children to toil in the field to supplement their little income than to sending them to school. Very little steps were also taken for attracting them towards education. In such a state of affairs, spread of education among them remained quite a difficult proposition. After the achievement of independence and the framing of the constitution special attention was paid to make rapid stride in the spread of education among these people. Various welfare programmes in the field of education are now under implementation both by the Education and Youth Services Department and the Harijan & Tribal Welfare Department for improving the socio-economic condition and the rate of literacy among the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

With a view to attracting a good number of children to schools and discouraging the heavy dropouts from schools in the pre-Matric stage, the Department of Harijan & Tribal Welfare started opening special schools such as Sevashrams, Ashram Schools and High English schools in different parts of the district exclusively for the education of the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Some of these institutions are residential type where the students belonging to these two groups prosecute their studies with the facilities of free boarding and lodging. Besides general education, the students in these schools are given practical training in different crafts such as carpentry, tailoring, smithy, agriculture, etc. At the post-Matric levels no special educational institutions are run by the Harijan & Tribal Welfare Department.

However, for providing residential facilities separate hostels have been established for them. Other educational facilities include free supply of reading and writing materials to the students reading in the educational institution maintained by the Harijan & Tribal Welfare Department. Nationalised text book are also supplied free to such students reading in Primary schools of the Education & Youth Services Department. Students reading in the Sevashrams are given free garments. The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes students studying in the Middle English schools and High English schools of the Education & Youth Services Department and also



the Harijan & Tribal Welfare Department are awarded with pre-Matric scholarship. Post-matric scholarship is also awarded to those who prosecute higher studies in various post-matric institutions in and outside the state. In the year 1985-86, the Harijan & Tribal Welfare Department maintained three High English schools including one for the girls, Ashram school and 46 Sevashrams in the district specially for the education of these students. The strength of the students in the same year in these High English schools, Ashram school and Sevashrams was 633,204,594 respectively. There were three hostels in the district for accommodation of these students. A total of 360 students found accommodation in the hostels during the same year.

Owing to the operation of different reformatory and regulatory measures undertaken by the Government, education has started spreading gradually among these people. According to the Census of 1961, the percentage of literacy found amongst the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes was 13.9 and 5.7 respectively. In the next decade the percentage of literacy has slightly increased. As per 1971 Census 20.5 per cent of the Scheduled Castes and 7.0 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes population were found to have acquired literacy. The figures further rose to 26.83 among the Scheduled Castes and 11.20 among the Scheduled Tribes in the Census of 1961.

#### GENERAL EDUCATION

##### Primary Schools

drive was launched. Other facilities such as free mid-day meal, grant of merit-scholarship and grant for maintenance of poor students in hostels were provided. Primary education has been made free. The results are positive. The number of students in the school has been increasing gradually and steadily. More number of schools are being opened every year. The number of teachers in the educational institutions is also increasing. Towards 1980-81 the number of Primary schools went up to 2,189.

The table given below shows the growth of Primary education in the district for the five years 1981-82 to 1985-86.

Year	Number of schools		Number of teachers		Number of pupils	
	Boys	Girls	Male	Females	Boys	Girls
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1981-82	2,317	16	4,701	519	1,71,638	1,15,623
1982-83	2,347	16	4,881	530	2,02,382	1,23,397
1983-84	2,347	16	4,936	559	1,96,659	1,43,633
1984-85	2,347	16	4,936	610	1,77,793	1,69,429
1985-86	2,377	16	4,977	615	2,26,752	1,63,432

Most of the Primary schools are managed by the local bodies such as Panchayat Samitis in the rural areas and Municipalities/Notified Area Councils in the urban and a few are directly under the Government.

### Madrasa

There were 5 Madrasas in the district for the education of the Muslims during the year 1985-86. The number of students was 1,174 (888 boys and 286 girls) and the number of teachers was 58 (including one female) in these institutions in the same year.

### Middle English Schools

The number of Middle English schools in the district in 1950-51, as per the Census of 1951, stood at 69 only which went up to 150 in 1960-61 according to the Census of 1961. Like Primary education, the number of Middle English schools

increased during the years after independence. In the beginning of the seventies (as on 31st March 1970) the number of such schools further rose to 552. The increase in the number of such institutions was more in the following decade. Towards 1980-81 the number of Middle English schools rose to 917 (including 3 for girls). Some of the Middle English schools are run by the Government and the rest are managed privately.

The statement given below furnishes the number of Middle English schools and the strength of the students and teachers therein in the district during the years 1981-82 to 1985-86.

Year (1)	Number of Middle English schools		Number of teachers		Number of students	
	Boys (2)	Girls (3)	Males (4)	Females (5)	Boys (6)	Girls (7)
1981-82	953	3	3,451	244	47,998	19,246
1982-83	978	3	3,531	255	51,509	22,981
1983-84	978	3	3,535	260	52,302	24,834
1984-85	993	4	3,537	255	53,414	26,777
1985-86	999	4	3,568	257	63,040	28,879

### High English Schools

Spread of secondary education got momentum after fifties. The number of High English schools in the district in 1950-51 was 24. In the following decade there were 49 such institutions which included two for girls both located at Balleshwar town. Progress of High English Schools was very remarkable during the next decade. As per 1971 Census the number of High English schools was 208 as on the 31st March 1970. One Higher Secondary School was opened during this decade. The district enjoys better facilities of secondary education while compared to other districts of the state. According to survey report entitled "Some Important Findings on Schools Education in Orissa", published by the Education and Youth Services Department in 1973, 90.90 per cent of the total population of the district enjoyed facility of secondary education in their habitations or within a distance of 5 km. which was highest and was even higher than in the state average of 64.42 per cent. Thus it could be inferred that



the district made significant progress in the field of secondary education while compared to other districts of the state. In the beginning of the eighties the number of schools had increased considerably. In 1980-81 it stood at 346 including 32 schools for girls. Remarkable change was also noticed in the strength of student and the teachers in these institutions. On 31st March 1961, the number of teachers and students in these schools were 673 and 13,308 respectively. The strength of teachers rose to 1,864 and that of the students to 32,041 according to the Census of 1971. Towards 1980-81 still more was the increase as the corresponding figures stood at 3,102 (including 286 females) and 56,172 (including 16,190 girls) respectively. The foregoing table shows the growth of High English schools, with the number of teachers and students in the district during the five years (1981-82 to 1985-86).

Year (1)	Number of High English schools		Number of teachers		Number of students	
	Boys (2)	Girls (3)	Males (4)	Females (5)	Boys (6)	Girls (7)
1981-82	334	34	2,951	324	42,315	22,459
1982-83	359	34	3,098	333	45,402	18,915
1983-84	371	34	3,199	359	47,433	19,182
1984-85	441	34	3,246	361	48,991	19,504
1985-86	461	34	3,347	377	49,805	20,503

The Board of Secondary Education, Orissa, Cuttack conducts the High English Schools Certificate Examination.

### Basic Schools

There are thirty-three Basic Schools in the district and during 1985-86 a total of 3,282 students were taught by 1,719 teachers in these institutions.

### Kendriya Vidyalaya

The Kendriya Vidyalaya, Baleshwar established on 28th June, 1972 imparts teaching up to Class XI of 10+2 pattern of education. The medium of instructions are English and Hindi. The institution is affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education, New Delhi. During 1986-87 there were 597 (369 boys and 228 girls) students and 34 teachers (15 male and 19 female) in this Central School.

### **Cambridge and Convent Schools**

Established in the year 1973 at Baleshwar town, St. Vincent's Convent School, imparts education up to standard X starting from Kindergarten classes. During 1985-86 there were 1100 students in the institution. The medium of instruction is English; Oriya and Hindi are taught as second language. There is a hostel for the accommodation of the students. It is affiliated to the Council for Indian Schools Examination, New Delhi. The Diocese of Baleshwar is the controlling authority of the institution.

### **Colleges**

Started as a second grade college in July 1944 with 96 seats for Intermediate in Arts course, the Baleshwar College was the only institution of the type in the whole of the district in the pre-independence era. In 1946 the Bachelor of Arts class opened and Intermediate in Science was opened in 1948 and ultimately after more than a decade the Bachelor of Science class was opened in 1961-62. Now the institution provides education up to post-graduate level in Arts, Science and Commerce. The college was renamed as Fakir Mohan College in 1949 after the eminent Oriya poet and novelist late Fakir Mohan Senapati who was the son of the soil. Another college was started at Bhadrak in 1948 with initiative by the local people. Though privately managed, the institution was one of the big colleges of the state so far as its student's strength was concerned. Recently, this has been taken over by the State Government. These two colleges were directly under the Government. Other privately managed colleges but aided by the Government were providing higher education in the district till the end of the fifties. The Kuntala Kumari Sabat Womens' College was started at Baleshwar in 1960. It was the only women's college in the district. During the sixties, colleges were started at Basudebpur (1963), Jeleshwar and Soro (1964) by the initiative of the local people. The Government Evening College at Baleshwar started in 1966 by the Utkal University and later took over by the Government.

Private incentive has been playing an important role in spreading higher education in the district. More number of colleges are being opened in different parts of the district in recent years. During the year 1985-86 there were 33 colleges (approved by the Government) in the district of which 5 are directly under the Government and the rest are privately managed. Privately managed institutions raise funds through contribution by the public and local bodies and Government grants. A list of colleges in the district indicating the student and teacher strength is given in the pages 605 to 609.

Name of the College	Year of establishment	Standard up to which teaching is imparted	Number of students		Number of teachers		Remarks
			Boys	Girls	Male	Female	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1. Fakir Mohan College, Baleshwar.	1944	Degree in Arts, Science, Post-graduate degree in Commerce and Mathematics.	2,177	428	86	11	Government college
2. Bhadrak Bhadrak.	1948	Post-graduate degree in Economics and Commerce and Degree in Commerce, Science and Arts.	2,921	559	124	10	Ditto
3. Kuntala Kumari Sabat Women's College, Baleshwar.	1960	Degree in Arts	..	544	7	20	Ditto
4. Atalbehari College, Basudevpur.	1963	Degree in Arts and Science and +2 in Commerce.	1,195	141	48	2	Government aided college
5. Dinakrushna College, Jaleshwar.	1964	Ditto	947	195	38	4	Ditto
6. Upendra Nath College, Soro.	1964	Degree in Arts, Science and Commerce.	1,574	223	49	8	Ditto

Name of the College	Year of establishment	Standard up to which teaching is imparted	Number of students		Number of teachers		Remarks
			Boys	Girls	Male	Female	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
7. Fakir Mohan Evening College, Baleshwar	1966	Degree in Arts	576	111	18	—	Government college
8. Evening Shift Bhadrak College, Bhadrak	1974	Degree in Arts	711	86	18	1	Ditto
9. Biranchi Narayan Madhab Arjun College, Paliabindha	1975	Degree in Arts, +2 Science and Commerce.	809	43	39	3	Government aided college
10. Nilamani Mahavidyalaya, Rupsa.	1976	Degree in Arts and +2 in Science and Commerce.	678	81	22	6	Privately managed un-aided
11. Subarnarekha Mahavidyalaya, Baliapal	1976	Degree in Arts and Science	854	195	30	3	Ditto
12. Laxmi Narayan Mahavidyalaya, Jamsuli	1976	Degree in Arts and +2 in Science.	512	196	16	..	Ditto

Name of the College	Year of establishment	Standard up to which teaching is imparted	Number of students		Number of teachers		Remarks
			Boys	Girls	Male	Female	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
13. Dhamnagar College, Dhamnagar	1977	Degree in Arts and +2 in Science.	470	72	21	3	Managed, privately un-aided college
14. Harekrushna Mahtab College, Kupari.	1978	+3 Arts	490	104	15	2	Ditto
15. Gopalpur College, Gopalpur.	1978	+2 Arts	290	94	13	3	Ditto
16. Belavoomi Mahavidyalaya, Abhana.	1978	+3 in Arts and +2 in Science	265	153	18	1	Ditto
17. Dr. Jadunath College, Rasalpur.	1978	Degree in Arts	129	58	9	2	Ditto
18. Swarnachud Mitrapur.	1978	Degree in Arts and +2 in Science.	409	147	18	1	Ditto
19. Naami College, Naami	1978	+2 in Arts	348	88	11	..	Privately managed un-aided

20. Nilagiri Nilagiri.	College ,	1978	Degree in Arts	441	168	20	1	Ditto
21. Saraswata dyalaya, Anantapur.	Mahavi-	1978	+2 Arts	169	55	12	2	Ditto
22. O u p a d a Oupada.	College,	1978	+2 Arts	46	29	11	..	Ditto
23. Chandbali Chandbali.	College,	1979	+3 Arts and Commerce	684	174	20	4	Privately managed unaided
24. Charampa dyalaya, Bhadrak.	Mahavi- Charampa,	1979	Degree in Arts and Science	641	58	16	2	Managed privately un-aided college.
25. Bhadrak College, Bhadrak.	Women's College, Bhadrak.	1980	Degree in Arts and Arts.	..	589	..	25	Ditto
26. Agarpara Agarpara	College,	1980	Degree in Arts and Arts and Commerce	454	134	22	2	Ditto
27. Khaira Khaira.	College,	1980	Degree in Arts, and Arts and Commerce.	394	186	15	4	Ditto

28. Siddheswar College, Amarda Road.	1980	Degree in Arts and Science	941	256	28	4	Government aided college.
29. Bant Anchalika College, Bant.	1980	+2 in Arts	186	108	11	..	Privately managed unaided
30. Rural Institute of Higher Studies, Bhograi.	1980	+3 Arts and +2 Science	703	285	27	3	Ditto
31. Shantilata Mahavi-dyalaya, Utikiti.	1980	+3 Arts	325	85	12	..	Ditto
32. Similia College, Markona.	1981	+2 in Arts and +2 Commerce	315	72	11	2	Ditto
33. Srinibas College, Mangalpur,	1983	+2 in Arts and +2 in Commerce.	202	68	11	1	Ditto
34. Jaleshwar Women's College, Jaleshwar.	1984	+2 Arts	165	..	10	..	Not yet affiliated.

### PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

To train up candidates (inservice and fresh) for teachership in Primary schools there are seven Secondary Training schools in the district, located at Agarpara, Tudigadia, Bagudi, Nangaleswar, Remuna, Basta and Pahimahura. The training schools situated at Remuna and Basta are meant for women. The minimum qualification for admission to these schools is Matriculation. The course is of two-year duration and the successful candidates are awarded with the Certificate of Teachership by the Board of Secondary Education, Orissa, Cuttack. The intake capacity of each of these training schools is 60 of which 50 are stipendiary. Each trainee gets stipend at the rate of rupees 75 per month.

### Industrial and Technical Institutions

The Industrial Training Institute at Baleshwar has been functioning since 1958. The institute provides training in the trades like Electrician, Wiremen, Diesel Mechanic, Stenography, Fitter, Motor Mechanic, Welder, Turner, Tractor Mechanic and Sheet Metal Works. The minimum qualification for eligibility for admission is Matriculation for some trades like Electrician, Diesel Mechanic with two-year duration, (for non-Matrices the Diesel Mechanic course is of one year) and Stenography with one-year duration. In other trades the incumbents are non-Matric. The total strength of the students of the institute is 349 including 10 girls during 1986-87. The institute is affiliated to the State Council for Education and Training, Orissa, Cuttack under the administrative control of the Director of Industries.

### Baleshwar Technical Schools, Baleshwar

The Baleshwar Technical School is an old institution. It was established in the year 1906 by the Christian Missionaries with a view to providing vocational training. It imparts one year certificate course in short-hand and type-writing; and three-years artisan certificate course in the trades like Carpentry, Turner, Fitter and Welder. The minimum educational qualification for the former is Matriculation and Middle School for the later. The artisan course is for male candidates only. During 1986-87 there are 87 students (49 boys and 38 girls) in one-year certificate course and 23 boys in the artisan course. The number of teachers is 7 including one female. The institution is managed by the Christian Service Society of the Bengal-Orissa-Bihar Baptist Churches.



### **Crew Training Institute, Chandbali**

The Crew Training Institute at Chandbali was established on 1st February, 1980. Initially the Crew Training Establishment was first created under the Commerce and Transport (Ports) Department in April 1979 for imparting training to the raw hand Khalasi, Serang and driver of inland mechanically propelled vessels according to the Inland Vessel Act, 1917 (modified up to December 1977). After completion of training the successful candidates are issued a certificate to act as a deck rating or engine rating of motor launch or trawler. After some experience the trainees are eligible to appear at the Competency examination (Licence examination) to act as Serang or driver of inland mechanically propelled vessels plying on rivers and canals of Orissa. The institute conducts two types of training course, one Refresher Training course of three-month duration meant for only inservice and candidates with some experience and aged between 25 and 45 years and the other Regular (Fresh) Training course of ten-month duration meant for fresh candidates and aged between 17 and 19 years. In both the cases the minimum educational qualification required is passed class IX. There is provision for training of the male candidates only in the institute. There are only 30 seats available in Regular course and 10 seats in Refresher course. The strength of the teaching staff is 9 including one Principal, two Instructors, one Marine F/M and five crews. The Director of Inland Water Transport, Cuttack, is the controlling authority of the institute.

### **Baleshwar Law College, Baleshwar**

The Baleshwar Law College, Baleshwar, has been functioning since 2nd October, 1978. The college provides education up to degree standard in law. It is privately managed and affiliated to the Utkal University. During 1986-87, there were 475 students (457 men and 18 women) and 12 teachers in this college.

### **Craft School**

There is a craft school at Jajangapatna which imparts training in crafts mostly based on raw materials like golden grass, cane and bamboo, Keora-leaf, palm-leaf, Konet, nalia grass, coir, etc., available in the locality. The course of the training is of one year duration and is imparted by an Instructor. There is provision for award of stipends to the trainees.

### **Government Training College**

The Government Training College, Baleshwar was established on 5th October, 1977. The intake capacity of the training college is 64. The institution imparts training in Bachelor Degree in Education and is affiliated to the Utkal University.

Two more training colleges have been started in the district in 1980 under private effort. They are located at Agarpara and Baliapal with the intake capacity of 128 in each college. The institutions receive financial aid from the Government.

These training colleges provide training up to degree standard in Education.

### **Baliapal College of Physical Education**

The Baliapal College of Physical Education, Baliapal was established on 1st June, 1981 under private management. It is affiliated to the Utkal University and is recognised by the Government. The training college conducts certificate course and degree course in physical education of 9 months and 10 months duration, respectively. During 1986-87, there are 128 trainees (116 men and 12 women) in the certificate course and 128 (108 men and 20 women) in the degree course, and 9 teachers. The college is a residential one.

### **Institution for Fine Arts, Music, Dance and Painting**

The Monmohan Sangeet Parishad, Bhadrak was established in 1950. The institution imparts instruction in music (vocal and instrumental and dance) up to post-graduate standard (Master in Music; Sangeet Bhaskar) of 8 years duration. The instrumental music includes violin, Sitar and Tabla and the classical Hindusthani, Odissi and Bhab Sangeet form the vocal music section. During 1985-86, it had 161 students and 9 teachers. The Sangeet Parishad is affiliated to the Pracheen Kala Kendra, Chandigarh.

Incepted in the year 1956 the Nrutya Sangeet Kalamandir, Baleshwar provides teaching facility up to graduate standard (Bisharad) in vocal (Hindusthani and Odissi) and instrumental (Tabla, guitar, sitar and violin) and Odissi dance. It is affiliated to the Akhil Bharatiya-Gandharva Mahavidyalaya Mandal, Pune. In 1985-86 there were 336 students and 20 teachers.

The Swarnachuda Chhau Institute at Nilagiri is an old institution for propagation of music and dance. It was established in the year 1950. During 1985-86, the institute had 32 students (24 in Chhau dance and 8 in music section) and 4 teachers. The institute imparts a ten-month course in Chhau dance.

The Swara Tirtha, Bhadrak, a college of music, dance and drama was opened during the year 1970-71. It imparts a 6-year course in music, vocal and instrumental, and dance (Odissi). The institution is affiliated to the Prayag Sangeet Samiti, Allahabad. During 1985-86 it had 76 students (49 boys and 27 girls) and 5 teachers.

The establishment of the Saikala Mandir, Baleshwar dates back to the year 1972-73. Teaching on music both vocal and instrumental and Odissi dance of 7 years duration (B. A. standard) is being given to the students. During 1985-86 the Saikala Mandir had 131 students (68 boys and 63 girls) and 11 teachers. It has its affiliation with the Gandharva Mahavidyalaya Mandal, Miraj and Pracheen Kalakendra, Chandigarh.

#### **ORIENTAL SCHOOL**

##### **Sanskrit Tols**

The district seems to have been conscious of Sanskrit learning since long. In 1895-96 there were 9 Sanskrit Tols and the strength of the pupils was 146. The number of Sanskrit Tols increased to 39 towards 1985-86 and the number of students during the same year was 3,044 students (2,389 boys and 655 girls). The number of teachers was 185.

##### **Shyama Sundar Sanskrit College**

There is only one Sanskrit College in the district namely, the Shyama Sundar Sanskrit College at Bhograi which was opened in 1930 as a Tol and converted to a college in the year 1975. The Sanskrit College provides Sanskrit teaching from Prathama to Acharya (M. A. standard). The Shastriya subjects taught to the students are Sahitya, Dharmashastra, Vyakarana and Purana in both Sanskrit and Oriya languages. Besides, subjects like Oriya, English, Mathematics, Science, History, Political Science and shorthand and type-writing are also taught. It is affiliated to Sri Jagannath Sanskrit Vishwa Vidyalaya, Puri. During 1985-86 it had 183 students (155 men and 28 women) and 16 teachers (including one female). The institution is privately managed and approved by the Government of Orissa.

##### **School for Mentally Retarded Children**

A school for mentally retarded children at Baleshwar has been functioning since 2nd August, 1982 as one of different wings of the Handicapped Welfare Organisation, Baleshwar. It is recognised by the Community Development and Rural Reconstruction Department, Government of Orissa. The school imparts teaching up to Primary standard to mentally retarded children and children who are hard of hearing. The method of teaching is through

daily living activities, habit training, (toileting, washing, dressing, etc.), motor training (standing, sitting, walking, running, etc.), behaviour, modification training, language training, speech therapy, music therapy, play therapy, physiotherapy and vocational training. The medium of instruction is Oriya. During 1986-87 there were 25 students (20 boys and 5 girls) and 4 teachers (3 male and 1 female) in the school.

#### ADULT LITERACY

Driving out illiteracy has been a matter of great concern to the Government since independence. In 1948, the State Government took up the cause of adult education and the Normal Adult Education Programme was introduced. As many as forty night schools were opened in the district and the Primary school teachers were engaged to take up night classes for educating the adults. They were awarded Rs. 21/- for making an adult literate. The Adult Education Programme gathered momentum since 1951 when the Government took up the scheme of social education. In Community Development Blocks night schools both for men and women were opened. Non-formal education was introduced in 1975-76 and redesignated as the Rural Functionary Literacy Programme with effect from 1977. The National Adult Education Programme was launched on the 2nd October, 1978 on a massive scale by incorporating the Rural Functionary Literacy Programme and the Non-formal Education Programme which were in operation. The Adult Literacy Programme now comes under the National Minimum Needs Programme. The scheme of universalisation of elementary education for the children in the age-group 6—14 and the adult literacy and Non-formal Education Programme are the two distinct features of the present programme. The policy of the Government is to integrate and link the programme effectively with the developmental activities of the state. Thus, it adds a new dimension to the earlier literacy programme by way of combining social awareness to the earlier components of literacy and functionality as objectives of the programme.

According to the Fourth Educational Survey in September, 1978 a total of 4,070 children in the age-group 6—14 were enrolled in the non-formal education centres in the district which was the highest in the state. The enrolment of participants above 35 age-group in the non-formal education centres was reported to be 219, 932 adults in the Adult Education Centres in the district during the same year.

In 1984-85, there were 360 Adult Literacy Centres (300 under Central Plan and 60 under State Plan) for the age group 15—35 in the district, with 30 adults being enrolled

In each centre. One Instructor has been appointed in each of the centres with a monthly payment of Rs. 50/-.

This apart, the illiteracy drive is conducted through other voluntary organisations like the Nehru Yuva Kendra, National Service Scheme (N. S. S.) in the colleges and universities with the Central Government assistance.

#### CULTURAL AND LITERARY ORGANISATIONS

Cultural and literary organisations usually concentrate mostly in the urban areas. There are some active organisations in the district. These organisations organise literary meetings and symposia, observe the birth day of the eminent Oriya poets and writers, felicitate distinguished litterateurs on different occasions, publishes the writings of old poets and writers, etc. Some also publish magazines and journals. The statement given below shows the name of some of the active literary and cultural organisations in the district with their brief account.

Name of the organisation	Date/year of establishment	Total number of membership	Remarks
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1. Fakir Mohan Sahitya Parishad, Baleshwar.	1948	145	Maintains a library. Published books, namely, Fakir Mohan Parikrama, Rajatashri Smaranika, Kanheianauna, Fakir Mohan: His life and literature.
2. Sahitya Sanskruti Parishad, Bhadrak.	14.4.1980	150	Maintains other sister institutions, such as, Yuba Srasta Manasa, Indira Priya Darshani, Sunday Art School, etc.
3. Radhanath Pathagar, Soro.	5.10.1949	120	Maintains a good library. Runs an adult education centre, published a book, namely, Radhanath Parichiti.

Name of the organisation	Date/ Year of establi- shment	Total number of member- ship	Remarks
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
4. Dinakrushna Sahitya Parishad, Jaleshwar.	1983	300	Published books, namely, Dinakrushna Smaranika, a souvenir, Samakalina Sahitya.
5. Uttar Orissa Sahitya Sans - kruti Sammelan, Balleshwar.	1976	437	Encourages Orissan art, culture and literature specially in the border areas. Publishes scripts of talented writers.
6. Barta Pratisthan Meghadambaru, Kuruda.	14.11.1979	..	Publishes a literary quarterly, namely, Barta Urmi, a children's magazine-Tikifula Raija. It also maintains some social service organisations.
7. Kabi Krushna-kanta Sahitya Parishad.	3.2.1980	20	It aims to propagate the Chhanda, Chaupadi, etc., written by the late poet Krushnakanta Das. Organises an Akhada Dal.
8. Banchhanidhi Smarak Natya Niketan and Banchhanidhi Pathagar, Iram	10.2.1962	35	Besides literary and cultural activities, it renders social services, and conducts sports. Published a book, namely, Banchhanidhi Padyabali.
9. Kanta Sahitya	1966	11	Organises cultural and literary meets. Published books, namely, Rastati Dhuli O'Matira, a magazine— Sabuja Shri and Aranya. It also exhibits theatrical performances.

Besides the Shastriji Yubak Sangha and Cultural Association (1965), Gangadhar Smruti Yuba Parishad (1974) and Binapani Yuba Parishad (1975) are some other organisations of the type functioning in the district.

#### LIBRARIES

Library is a centre of learning. With the growth of modern civilization the importance of library has increased and are widely spread right from the towns down to the villages. Almost all educational institutions have their own libraries. Offices also maintain reference library for their use. Among the public libraries the name of the Radhanath Pathagar at Soro deserves mention. It was started in the year 1946. The Subodh Chandra Bani Bhaban at Baleshwar town was another old library in the district. The library merged with the public reading room in 1950. The Information and Public Relations Department of the Government of Orissa maintains library-cum-reading room at Baleshwar and Bhadrak with a daily average attendance of 50 and 65 respectively. There was a reading room at Nilagiri. The District Library at Baleshwar has been set up in 1979 under the auspices of the Cultural Affairs Department of Government of Orissa. A good number of private libraries also function in different parts of the district. A list of some of the important libraries in the district is given below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Library	Management
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	Information Centre and Reading Room, Baleshwar.	Information and Public Relations Department
2	Information Centre and Reading Room, Bhadrak.	Ditto
3	District Library, Baleshwar	Cultural Affairs Department
4	Bapuji Pathagar, Chudamani	Private management
5	Binapani Library, Channagar	Ditto
6	Radhanath Pathagar, Soro	Ditto
7	Santiniketan Pathagar, Dhusuri	Ditto
8	Utkal Laxmi Pathagar, Bankabazar, Bhadrak.	Ditto
9	Kaupur G. P. Yubak Sangh Pathagar, Kaupur.	Ditto
10	Palibikash Pathagar, Balikhand	Ditto

## POETS AND WRITERS

The district has a special place in the development of Oriya language and literature. Sridhar Swami and Baladeb Vidyabhusan are the two famous Sanskrit scholars and commentators of India who were born in this district. Litterateurs like Radhanath Roy and Fakir Mohan Senapati who were the pioneers in various fields of Modern Oriya language and literature also hail from this district. A short account of the distinguished poets and writers of the district in the pre-independence period is given below.

Sridhara Swami, a Sanskrit scholar of repute was born in the village, Maraigan in Nilagiri subdivision of the district in the first half of the 14th century A. D. It is said that for his vast learning and saintly character he was selected as the Mahanta of the Govardhana Math (Bhogovardhana Pitha), a famous Sanskrit monastery at Puri. He had some notable works to his credit, the chief among which is the Bhabarthadipika Tika (ଭାବାର୍ଥ ଦୀପିକା ଟିକା), an erudite commentary on the Bhagavata Purana, which is accepted to be the best of its kind on the sacred text.

Baladeva Vidyabhusan, the great Sanskrit scholar and Vaishnav Philosopher, according to scholars, was born at Remuna in Baleshwar district towards the end of the 17th century. His famous commentary on Vedanta Sutra which he named as 'Govinda Bhasya' earned him undying fame. Late Prabhat Kumar Mukherjee in his book 'History of Chaitanya Faith in Orissa', has discussed in detail about the birth place and the scholarly attainment of this Vaishnav scholar, from which an excerpt is quoted here: "He was born in a Khandait (Kshatriya) family in Balasore district towards the end of the 17th century..... Baladeva was the greatest Sanskrit scholar of Orissa. Apart from his celebrated Govinda Bhasya and Prameya Ratnavali, he wrote the Siddhanta Ratna (ସିଦ୍ଧାନ୍ତ ରତ୍ନ) and the Sahitya Koumodi (ସାହିତ୍ୟ କୌମୁଦୀ). He also wrote commentaries on Rupa Stavamala (ରୂପ ଷ୍ଟବମାଳା) in 1764 A. D., Jiva Tattwa Sandarva (ଜୀବ ତତ୍ତ୍ୱ ସାନ୍ଦର୍ଭ) and on Rasikananda's Shyamananda Satakam (ଶ୍ୟାମାନନ୍ଦ ଷ୍ଟବକମ୍)."

The famous Vaishnav poet, Dinakrushna Das's literary merit could be well judged from his poetical composition Rasavinoda (ରସବିନୋଦ) and other works. He belonged to the 17th century and was born in the village Tinia near Jaleshwar.

Janaki Ballabh Kar of Bhograi flourished in the 18th century, his famous work being Vishnu Sahasranama (ବିଷ୍ଣୁ ସହସ୍ରନାମ).



Jagannath Pani, of Nalanga, the forerunner of Vaishnav Pani, the popular composer of Oriya musical dramas was very much popular in the district for his Giti Natya and Suangas. Among his works, the Ushabati Haran (ଉଷାବତୀ ହରଣ ), Parijat Haran (ପାରିଜାତ ହରଣ ), Sita Banabas (ସୀତା ବନବାସ ), Manabhanjan (ମାନବହଞ୍ଜନ ), Mahiraban Badhha (ମହୀରାବଣ ବନ୍ଧ ), Rukmini Parinaya (ରୁକ୍ମିଣୀ ପରିଣୟ ), and Daksha Jajna (ଦକ୍ଷଯଜ୍ଞ ), deserve special mention,

The Mughal Tamasa (ମୁଗଲ ତମାସା), a popular folk drama of Bhadrak was written by late Bansiballabh Goswami who was born in the village Sangat near Bhadrak in 1728.

Krushnakanta Das (1838—1903 A. D.) of Mangalpur in Soro police-station was a popular play-wright. He wrote 19 Giti Natyas and other devotional songs.

Oriya language and literature owe much to Fakir Mohan Senapati, and his contemporary Radhanath Roy who hailed from this district. It is their powerful writings which opened a new era in modern Oriya literature. Fakir Mohan Senapati (1843—1918) popularly known as Vyasakabi and who is also said to be the Thomas Hardy of Orissa for his novels hails from Mallikaspur in Baleshwar town. He was a poet, a writer and above all a novelist. His translation of the Ramayana and the Mahabharata from the original Sanskrit to Oriya earned him the epithet Vyasa Kavi. To remove the deficiency of text-books in Oriya he wrote Rajput ra Itihas (ରାଜପୁତ୍ର ଇତିହାସ ), Bharatavarsara Itihas (ଭାରତ ବର୍ଷର ଇତିହାସ ) and some other text books. His travelogue Utkal Bhraman (ଉତ୍କଳ ଭ୍ରମଣ ) written in poetry is highly interesting as well as informative. The Puspamala (ପୁଷ୍ପମାଳା) Upahara (ଉପହାର ) and Boudhavatara Kavya (ବୌଦ୍ଧବତାର କାବ୍ୟ ) are some of his other poetical works. Fakir Mohan, however, excels in the field of short story writing and novel. His short story collection Galpasalpa (ଗଳ୍ପସାଳ୍ପ ) published in 2 volumes and his four novels, Chhamana Athagunth ( ଛମାଣ ଆଠଗୁଣ୍ଠ ), Mamu ( ମାମୁ ), Prayaschita (ପ୍ରାୟଶ୍ଚିତ ) and Lachhama (ଲକ୍ଷ୍ମୀ) have earned him undying fame in Oriya literature and he has been rightly called as the Father of Oriya fiction. His autobiography, Fakir Mohananka Atmcharita (ଫକୀରମୋହନଙ୍କ ଆତ୍ମଚରିତ ) which gives a vivid picture of the social, political and cultural conditions of his time is considered to be a masterpiece of its kind. A sense of humour, mild satire and a deep insight into human nature which make his short stories and novels so interesting are also amply represented in this autobiography.

Radhanath Roy who was born on the 28th September 1848 in the village Kedarpalli near Baleshwar town, is famous as the pioneer and chief architect of modern Oriya poetry. While Fakir Mohan enriched Oriya prose, Radhanath, the Poet of Nature excelled in poetry. He eschewed the ornate poetic style and Sanskritised diction of medieval Oriya poetry and brought poetry nearer to the heart of Oriya reader by writing in simple and mellifluous style. His poetic excellence lies in his treatment of nature. Instead of writing long Kavyas of the medieval period he preferred short Kavyas or Khanda Kavyas which become immensely popular. The impact of western literature is clearly discernible in his poetic compositions but he never abandoned all that is best in the long and rich tradition of Oriya poetry—Chandrabhaga, Kedar Gouri, Nandikeswari, Usha, Parvati, Chilika and Darabar which are some of his most popular Kavyas. He also wrote Mahayatra, an ambitious epic in blank verse, but could not complete it due to his death. He also made a successful translation of poet Kalidas's Meghaduta into Oriya and wrote some beautiful prose pieces.

Chandramohan Maharana, an inhabitant of Remuna and contemporary of Radhanath Roy, was a noted educationist and litterateur. His Kathavali (କଥାବଳୀ) and Odiya Sisu Vyakaran (ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଶିଶୁ ବ୍ୟାକରଣ) are well-known.

Late Chintamani Mohanty born in 1867 in Bhadrak was a voluminous writer in Oriya. He wrote poetry, short stories and novels. He wrote more than one hundred books, the chief among which are Ghumusara Kavya (ଘୁମୁସରା କାବ୍ୟ), Mahendra (ମହେନ୍ଦ୍ର), Sinharaja (ସିନ୍ଧାରାଜା), Udyana Khanda (ଉଦ୍ୟାନ ଖଣ୍ଡ), Utkal Kamala (ଉତ୍କଳ କମଳା), Meghasana (ମେଘାସନା), Salandi (ସାଲନ୍ଦୀ) all poetry and Rupachudi (ରୂପାଚୁଡ଼ି), Tankagachha (ଟଙ୍କା ଗଛ), Sanisapta (ସନିଷ୍ଠା), Jugala Math (ଯୁଗଳମଥ) all novels. His Kavya, Vikramaditya (ବିକ୍ରମାଦିତ୍ୟ), is supposed to be his masterpiece.

Chintamani Mahanty spent most of his time in the district of Ganjam as a court-poet in the ex-zamindari of Surangi. The influence of Radhanath Roy in his poetry and that of Fakir Mohan Senapati in his novels and short stories is easily discernible.

Padma Charan Das (1867—1940) was born at Guharia Sahi in Soro police-station. His writings namely, Oriya Kirttan (in two volumes), Sangita Harabali (ସଙ୍ଗୀତ ହାରାବଳି) and plays like Kansabadha (କଂସବଧ), Prataprudradev (ପ୍ରତାପରୁଦ୍ରଦେବ) and Shri Shri Radhagovinda Kelivilasa (ଶ୍ରୀ ଶ୍ରୀ ରାଧାଗୋବିନ୍ଦ କେଳିବିଳାସ) speak of his literary merit.

Asraf Ali Khan was born in the middle of the 19th century in Baleshwar town. His critical appreciation of Meghanadabhadra of Michael Madhusudan Dutta, a famous poet of Bengal, earned him the regard of Raychand Premchand and for his poetic excellence he was awarded the title of Kavya Ratnakar. His published works are Jugal Bharati ( ଯୁଗଳ ଭରତୀ ), 'Parbara Bheti' ( ପର୍ବର ଭେଟି ), Sarbasara Swasthya Sadhana ( ସର୍ବସାର ସ୍ବାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ସାଧନ ), Islam, Premochhwas ( ପ୍ରେମୋଚ୍ଛ୍ବାସ ), Asraf Kosa ( ଅସରଫ୍ କୋଷ ), etc.

Dr. Niladri Dutta born at Januganj, Bhadrak, in 1887 is known for his literary works Chandroddhar ( ଚନ୍ଦ୍ରୋଦ୍ଧାର ) and Sukti ( ସୁକ୍ତି ).

Narayan Dey (1887) began writing from his student career. He taught English in the Ravenshaw College, Cuttack and was a reputed poet and critic in Oriya. His poetry collection 'Baijayanti' ( ବୈଜୟନ୍ତି ), critical work Sahitya O'Samalochana ( ସାହିତ୍ୟ ଓ ସମୀକ୍ଷା ) are well known.

Kantakabi Lakshmikanta Mohapatra was born in 1888 at Talapada in Bhadrak Subdivision. The Katakabi is famous in Oriya literature for his beautiful lyrics. He wrote poems, ballads, lyrics, Bhajans (hymns), dramas and short stories. He was the founder of the popular Oriya literary periodical, the Dagara. The periodical enjoyed wide circulation in Orissa for its satirical writings on contemporary social and political situations and for its humour and parodies. The devotional lyrics of the Katakabi are very popular among Oriya readers. His incomplete novel Kanamamu ( କଣାମାମୁ ), based on realism is a superb creation. He was also the writer of 'Asahayogira Atmakatha' ( ଅସହଯୋଗୀର ଆତ୍ମକଥା ), a beautiful satire. He was a famous play-wright. His works were Karna ( କର୍ଣ ), Kaliya Dalana ( କାଳୀୟ ଦଳନ ), Besa Bedala ( ବେଶ ବେଦଳା ), etc.

Mohini Mohan Senapati, son of Fakir Mohan Senapati, taught philosophy in the Ravenshaw College, Cuttack. He wrote many thought-provoking essays which have been collected and published. He was supposed to be an atheist and his revolutionary views on ethics and social morality raised a storm of controversy.

Sashibhusan Roy (1876—1953), son of the famous poet, Radhanath Roy is well-known for his excellent prose compositions. His two famous works are 'Utkala-Prakruti' ( ଉତ୍କଳ-ପ୍ରକୃତି ) and Utkalara Rutuchitra ( ଉତ୍କଳର ଋତୁଚିତ୍ର ).

Padamashree Laxminarayan Sahoo (1890—1960), a prominent social worker, wrote Odisare Jaina Dharma (ଓଡ଼ିଶାରେ ଜୈନ ଧର୍ମ) and Mora Barabula Jiban (ମୋର ବାରବୁଲା ଜୀବନ).

Banchanidhi Mohanty (1897—1938), a man from Eram made significant contributions to Oriya literature in the form of his inspiring lyrics written during the Freedom Movement. His works like Utkalbina (ଉତ୍କଳବୀଣା), and 'Banchhanidhi Padyavali' (ବାଞ୍ଛାନିଧି ପଦ୍ୟାବଳୀ) have been published.

Nityananda Mohapatra was born in 1912 at Bhadrak. He is a reputed poet as well as a writer in Oriya literature. He has a lot of works to his credit. His published works include Panchajanya (ପାଞ୍ଚଜନ୍ୟ), Kalaradi (କାଳରତି), all poetry; Bhul (ଭୁଲ), Jibanara Lakshya (ଜୀବନର ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ), Jianta Manisa (ଜୀଅନ୍ତା ମନିଷ), Sukhara Sandhane (ସୁଖର ସଂଧାନେ), Jalanta Nian (ଜଳନ୍ତା ନିଆଁ), Khasada Bata (ଖସଡା ବାଟ), Hidamati (ହିତମାତି), Bhangahada (ଭଞ୍ଗାହାଡ଼) and Gharadiha (ଘରଡ଼ିହ), all novels; Naham Tisthami Baikunthe (ନାହାମି ତିଷ୍ଠାମି ବୈକୁଣ୍ଠେ), a biography; Akhi Nahin Kana Nahin (ଆଖିନାହିଁ କାନନାହିଁ), a humour; Patra O' Pratima (ପତ୍ର ଓ ପ୍ରତିମା), Kabipriyasu (କବି ପ୍ରିୟସୁ), essay, etc. He won Orissa Sahitya Academy Award for his Naham Tisthami Baikunthe. He has also received Central Sahitya Akademi Award for his novel Gharadiha in 1987. He is also the editor of the Oriya literary magazine, the 'Dagara' (ଦଗର).

Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab (1899—1987) who made his mark in life as an eminent politician, capable administrator, a famous historian and a veteran editor, was a litterateur of repute. He is very much famous for his History of Orissa published in two volumes both in English and Oriya. His writings include the Pratibha (ପ୍ରତିଭା) Abyapara (ଅବ୍ୟାପାର), Nutan Dharma (ନୂତନ ଧର୍ମ), Tautor (ତାତ୍ତ୍ୱତର), Charichhakshu (ଚରିତ୍ରକ୍ଷୁ), Sesa Asru (ଶେଷ ଅଶ୍ରୁ), Atma Dana (ଆତ୍ମଦାନ), Trutiya Parba (ତୃତୀୟ ପର୍ବ), 'Palasi Abasane' (ପଲାସୀ ଅବସାନେ) Yuga Sanketa' (ଯୁଗ ସଂକେତ), Sadhana Pathe' (ସାଧନା ପଥେ), Andha Yuga (ଅନ୍ଧ ଯୁଗ). He got the Central Sahitya Akademi award in 1983 for his 'Gan Majalis' (ଗାଁ ମଜଲିସ), popular feature on contemporary social, political and economic situation in the country meant to be read and understood by the common men. Those writings were serialised in the daily Oriya newspaper, Prajatantra founded by him. He was the Chief Editor of the 'Jhankar', a prominent monthly Oriya literary magazine till the end of his life.

Many other prominent poets and writers are in the district who have made valuable contributions to the glory of Oriya literature. Some of them, viz., Shri Upendra Prasad Mohanty, Baishnab Charan Das, Radhamadhab Giri and Sudhansu Sekhar Ray earned name and fame for their writings.

Shri Ananta Prasad Panda is a prominent writer of the district. Manoj Das is an outstanding writer of the modern Oriya literature who has won the Central Sahitya Akademi Award for his Manoj Dasanka Katha O' Kahani (ମନୋଜ ଦାସଙ୍କ କଥା ଓ କାହାଣୀ). Brajamohan Rath and Jadunath Das Mahapatra are reputed poets and writers of present age. Dr. Manmath Nath Das, Subhendhu Mohan Das, Late Nanda Kishore Das, Lakshminarayan Mahanty, Shri Bibhuti Bhusan Tripathy, Dr. Narendra Nath Mishra, Nilmani Mishra, Dr. Krushna Chandra Behera, Chandra Kumar Mahanty, Harish Chandra Baral, Satyanarayan Panda, Smt. Santi Bâl, Smt. Manorama Mohapatra, Smt. Giribala Mohanty and others are active in their literary field. Nrusingha Charan Nayak of village Solampur was a well-known poet and scholar and has many literary publications on Hindu Sastra and Puranas to his credit. Kartikeswar Patra, Purusottam Bhuyan are famous play-wrights. Late Nalini Devi Routroy and Kanhailal Das, a short fiction writer who died young earned fame for their works Nazanul Kavita (a translation) and Kanheinama (କହେଇନାମ), a collection of short stories, respectively. Dr. Gokulananda Mahapatra is an outstanding writer. His writings are mainly based on popular science. Praharaj Satyanarayan Nanda, Golak Chandra Mohapatra, Chaturbhuja Pattanaik, Bhagirathi Mohapatra Pandit Ramanath Mishra, Raghunath Panda, Krushna Prasad Behera, Kamalakanta Lenka, Bata Behari Das, Annada Prasad Rakshit, Bijaya Mishra, etc., are some other notable poets and writers of the district.

## CHAPTER XVI

### MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

#### MEDICAL

##### Climate

The climate of the district, on the whole, is not very good. Many parts of the district are low-lying, swampy and water-logged. The houses, which are generally mud huts constructed from earth dug out of a hole in the immediate vicinity, are surrounded by unhealthy stagnant pools which mostly form breeding places for mosquitoes. Besides, the entire district lies in a flood prone area. Major part of the district remains inundated during the rainy season for a long time. The climate of Baleshwar is encircled by a large number of water-logged swamps. Also certain portions to the north particularly Jaleshwar area which is regarded as the worst fever zone, are unhealthy. Malarial fever of a malignant type was spreading from the adjacent tracts of Midnapur in the past. In this subdivision Malaria and Filaria are endemic. The climate of the Bhadrak subdivision is however cooler and fairly healthy. The climate of Nilagiri subdivision which is a low-lying tract and surrounded by ranges of hills and forests is usually damp and unhealthy. Some portions of the hilly tract are malarious. The district which was once a malarial tract has now improved due to various Malaria Control Programmes.

Epidemics like cholera and small-pox took a heavy toll of life in the past. But owing to the operation of various public health and preventive measures their visitations are now almost under control.

##### Survey of Public Health and Medical Facilities in Early Times

The Baleshwar Pilgrim Hospital, the first of its kind in the district was established in 1853 with the object of affording medical relief to the pilgrims passing along the Trunk Road to Puri. It provided accommodation for 39 indoor patients (33 males and 6 females) in which an average of 6,000 patients were treated annually. Besides, there were two dispensaries, one at Baleshwar town and the other at Bhadrak which was opened in 1868. During 1890-94, there were only 8 dispensaries in the district in which the average annual number of persons treated was 21,000. Gradually the number of dispensaries excluding the Police Hospital at Baleshwar was increased to 11 of which 4 had accommodation for in-patients. Among other medical institutions

of the district, mention may be made of the Pilgrims's Lodging House Fund, which contributed to the pay of the Civil Hospital Assistants in charge of the dispensaries at Chandbali and Jaleshwar.

Prior to establishment of these institutions, there probably existed no public hospitals or dispensaries in the district. Perhaps no principles of hygiene save certain rigid religious practices were known to the people. Public health measures as known today did not exist.

Infectious diseases like small-pox and cholera were generally attributed to the wrath of the village deities and their propitiation through various rites constituted the only measure for getting rid of them. No medicine was ordinarily given to the patient.

From remote past the Ayurvedic system was popular among the people. The Vaidyas and Kavirajas, the chief exponents of this system used to carry on their profession as a family creed. Due to lack of state patronage and after the introduction of the allopathic system their influence gradually declined.

Despite the medical facilities within easy reach the local people even today take recourse to the use of indigenous herbs and plants containing therapeutic properties.

In 1907-08, as recorded by Cobden Ramsay, there was one dispensary in the ex-state of Nilagiri which provided accommodation for indoor patients. The dispensary was in charge of a Medical Officer with the qualification of an Assistant Surgeon.

### **Vital Statistics**

A systematic collection of vital occurrences throughout the district began from 1892 under the Bengal Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1873 (Act IV, 1873). The primary reporting agency under this Act, in the rural area was the Chowkidar who used to collect information about vital occurrence during his rounds in villages and reported them at the police-station on weekly or fortnightly parade days. The Thana officer consolidated the reports thus recorded for a month and then sent monthly returns to the District Health Officer. The District Health Officer sent the consolidated returns to the Director Health Services. But practically this work suffered a great deal at the hands of the Chowkidars who deemed it as an additional work beyond their legitimate duty. Inadequate penal provision both for the collecting and reporting agencies also aroused little consciousness about

their duties in this direction. The Thana Officer, busy on ever-increasing law and order problem hardly checked the reports furnished by the Chowkidar. The entire structure of vital statistics was therefore, based on what was reported by the Chowkidar, an illiterate and low-paid person, and the result was admittedly far from correct. The transfer of Chowkidars to the pay-roll of the Grama Panchayat caused further setback to the system. After this transfer, the attendance of the Chowkidars at the weekly parade in Thanas fell considerably, causing still greater default in reporting of vital statistics. After the abolition of Chowkidari System in 1965, various attempts were made for effective collection of the information through the Orissa Grama Panchayat Act, 1964. Subsequently the State Government passed the Orissa Grama Rakhi Act, 1967 on the 29th July, 1967 and the Orissa Grama Rakhi Rules, 1969 on the 11th May, 1969, under which the Grama Rakhis, besides other duties, are required to report the births and deaths which occur within their jurisdiction to the officer in charge of the respective police-stations at an interval of 15 days. But in urban areas the registration of births and deaths are done by the sanitary staff of the local bodies.

The collection and reporting of these events were slightly better in the towns of Baleshwar and Bhadrak. There was a municipality for the Baleshwar town and a Notified Area Council in Bhadrak. The vital statistics for Baleshwar town were available from 1951 and those for Bhadrak town were reported from 1959. In these two towns, the vital occurrences were collected by the health staff of the municipality and Notified Area Council who sent the monthly returns to the District Health Officer. On receipt of the monthly reports from the Thana Officer, and the municipality and the Notified Area Council, the District Health Officer compiled and forwarded monthly report of births and deaths to the Director of Health Services, Orissa, for compilation of state figure.

The Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969 (Act No. 18 of 1969), and the Orissa Registration of Births and Deaths Rules, 1970, have been enforced in the district with effect from 1st July, 1970. The Health Officer, or in his absence, the Executive Officer in the urban areas, and the Thana Officer in the rural areas are appointed as the Registrars. The Chief District Medical Officer and the Assistant District Medical Officer (P. H.) act as the District Registrar and the Additional District Registrar of Births and Deaths respectively while the Director of Health Services, Orissa acts as the Chief Registrar. The responsibility to make reports about the births and deaths within a stipulated time devolves on the head of the



house or household. The Act provides for penalties of fairly a nominal amount in a graduated scale for the period of delay or failure to report on the part of the reporting agency. Besides, different officers in charge of various institutions like hospitals, hotels, running trains, buses, etc., are responsible to notify about births and deaths. The vital statistics for ten years from 1976 to 1985 are furnished in Appendix 1 of this chapter. These figures offer opportunity for undertaking prognosis relating to the trend of population increase and standard of health in the district.

The figures shown in Appendix II of this chapter relates to the principal causes of death for the period 1976 to 1984. But such statistics relating to an earlier period (1951—61) is furnished in the following table with a view to providing an approximate picture for scarcely any reliance can be placed on the classification made by the Chowkidar, who having possessed no medical knowledge is apt to regard fever as a general cause of death.

State/ District	Cholera	Small- pox	Fever	Dysentery and Diarrohea
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Orissa	34,440	62,978	13,12,573	1,34,096
Baleshwar	3,168	2,216	1,14,852	2,965

State/ District	Respiratory disease	Wounds and accidents	Other causes	Total
(1)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Orissa	72,409	33,547	6,33,498	22,83,541
Baleshwar	995	3,081	34,062	1,61,339

The comparative percentage of mortality due to cholera, small-pox and fever (chiefly malaria) in the district as well as the state during the period 1951—60 is furnished below:

State/District	Cholera	Small-pox	Fever
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Orissa	1.51	2.76	57.48
Baleshwar	1.96	1.37	71.19

These figures indicate that Baleshwar was then under the strong grip of these diseases.

### **Diseases common to the district**

#### **Fever,**

The term fever includes a number of diseases having their superficial symptom of a rise in the normal body temperature. It is probably the largest possible killer in Baleshwar district. During the period 1951—60, the total number of deaths due to fever is recorded at 114,852. People in the district suffered greatly from fever which accounted for 71.19 per cent of total mortality during the past decade. Incidence of different kinds of fever, such as malarial fever, filarial fever, enteric fever, viral fever, fever due to influenza, etc., is common. It is apparent from the statistics given in Appendix II of this chapter. Although incidence of fever is generally highest in the district, gradually it tends to decrease during the later years. The largest death toll due to it in the recent past was 13,781 in 1975.

#### **Malaria**

Malaria, among the various types of fever is common in the district. The entire district lies in a flooded area and major part of it is inundated during rainy season for a long time. It has also an unhealthy and malarial climate. The interior part of the district which is hilly has also an equally unhealthy climate. In 1921, a severe type of malaria visited the district causing death to a large number of persons. Deaths from malarial fever are recorded all the year round. The number of deaths from malaria generally swell up in the rainy season. During the period from 1951—60 a total number of 579,424 malaria cases were recorded to have been treated in the hospitals and other medical institutions in the district. The attendance of such patients at hospitals has, however, gone down from 1958 onwards. Gradually its endemicity has been greatly reduced on account of various malaria control programmes. It is evident from the statistics in Appendix III. The number of malaria patients treated in all the hospitals and dispensaries from 1980 to 1985 is decreasing. In the recent past in 1984-85 the incidence was 29,985 in the district but only 2 persons died from malaria.

#### **Filaria**

Filariasis also commonly occurs in the district. A large number of persons are annually affected by filarial fever. The incidence of filariasis, even today is abnormally high which is evident from the figures given in Appendix III. The number of patients

treated in all the medical institutions from 1980 to 1985 has increased with slight variation in the year 1981. From 1980 to 1984 not even a single person is recorded to have died from filaria disease. In the year 1984-85 only one person is reported to have died. Now filariasis, the most common epidemic disease has almost been checked.

### **Typhoid**

The incidence of typhoid is also high which is evinced from the figures in Appendix III and the figures are undoubtedly on the increase except in the year 1984-85. The greatest mortality was in the year 1982 when 43 persons died. People of Baleshwar district suffer greatly from typhoid every year but the number of deaths has steadily decreased.

### **Cholera**

From time to time there were severe epidemics of cholera in the district. Before construction of the railway, it invariably made its appearance along the Trunk Road together with the great stream of pilgrims travelling to Puri. It was once ranked first among the scourges of epidemic disease in the past and the mortality caused by it was appalling. Cholera was prevalent in the district even during the period from 1951—1960. Deaths during 1955 and 1960 were negligible being only 69 and 35 respectively. The greatest mortality was in the year 1953 when 718 persons died. From November 1952, number of cholera deaths began to be reported in greater number and in January, 1953 the highest casuality in any month during the decade was recorded, being 280. Deaths, however, fell down after April and the subsequent periods up to October, 1956 did not notice any great mortality, which was again on the increase from November, 1956 till January, 1957. The disease was present in almost all the months of the decade and its general tendency was to rise during November-January and then subside gradually. Among all months of the year least number of casualties has been in the month of September. The figures shown in Appendix III relating to the principal causes of death for the period 1980—1985 are undoubtedly on the decrease. Only one person is reported to have died in cholera during the five years. Owing to elaborate preventive measures taken against the epidemic these days which is described later in this chapter, cholera has been checked in the district to a great extent. Not a single cholera case was reported in the district during 1983-84 and 1984-85.

### **Small-pox**

The district seems to have suffered greatly from small-pox in the past. Small-pox also visited the district regularly during the past decade 1951—60 but it took only a few lives. In the year 1951 the

incidence was fairly large and the total number of persons died from small-pox was 1,029. Its severity was felt in early part of the year but from July it began to subside. In 1958 also 571 persons died out of which 120 deaths were recorded during April alone. During the years 1958 and 1960 it caused comparatively less number of deaths. The incidence of small-pox is also not so great which is evinced from the figures in Appendix III. During the period from 1980 to 1985 not a single person died of small-pox. Due to effective preventive measures taken by the World Health Organisation against the formidable disease it is claimed to have been eradicated, not only in India, but also throughout the world.

### **Yaws**

Yaws, a malignant type of skin disease is also commonly found among the tribal people. It seldom assumes any formidable proportion. But its incidence is almost completely checked in the district owing to the anti-yaws campaign undertaken in the past.

### **Leprosy**

The incidence of leprosy is also high in the district. Nowadays leprosy patients are found in large numbers mostly in the pilgrim centres and towns. At present its treatment is conducted in the existing hospitals and dispensaries. The anti-leprosy activities undertaken in Baleshwar district are dealt with separately later in this chapter.

### **Tuberculosis**

It was one of the principal diseases of the district in the past. From the statistics furnished in Appendix III it is apparent that about 2 to 3 thousand persons were annually affected by this disease. But during the period from 1980—1985 only 164 persons died of tuberculosis. The Government activities undertaken towards controlling the disease has been described later.

### **Dysentery and Diarrhoea**

In common with the inhabitants of other parts of Orissa people of Baleshwar district also suffer greatly from diarrhoea and dysentery. But the number of deaths attributed to these affections was not great. The cause of these diseases was the result of consumption of impure drinking water and the general ignorance of the people. The figures in Appendix III reveal that the annual number of dysentery patients treated in the district during 1980—1985 is increasing.

### **Other Common Diseases**

Fevers, cholera, small-pox, dysentery, diarrhoea, elephantiasis and infirmities were the principal diseases of the district in the past. But the impact of science on society in general and medical science in particular, has changed the situation. Incidence of malaria, small-pox and cholera which once played havoc in the district are now almost put under control. Among other diseases common to the district mention may be made of influenza, anaemia, malnutrition, respiratory diseases, heart diseases, skin diseases, tetanus, cancer, etc.

### **Public Hospitals and Dispensaries** **Administrative set-up**

There was a good dispensary with indoor ward attached at the headquarters of the ex-state of Nilagiri. The dispensary was in charge of an Assistant Surgeon. He was assisted by a Civil Hospital Assistant, who also looks after vaccination work and a qualified female Civil Hospital Assistant for the female patients. After the merger of the ex-state of Nilagiri, the administrative control of the dispensary was vested with the Civil Surgeon, Baleshwar. The Health Officer was in charge of the Public Health administration. Under the present set up the Civil Surgeon has been re-designated as the Chief District Medical Officer. Under him there are three Assistant District Medical Officers, one in charge of medical, the other in charge of Family Welfare and the third in charge of Public Health Organisations of the district. In addition, the Chief Medical Officer is assisted by a number of doctors including lady doctors and other technical and non-technical staff. Besides, his normal routine duties relating to the administration of medical and public health activities in the district, the Chief District Medical Officer also functions as the District Registrar under the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969. He is the local food authority under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954.

In 1949, there existed about 27 medical institutions. With the establishment of new institutions, chiefly the Primary Health Centres in the remote rural areas their number gradually increased. By the end of 1985 there were in the district 9 hospitals, 31 dispensaries, 19 Primary Health Centres, 10 Medical Aid Centres, 22 Subsidiary Health Centres, 1 First Aid Centre, 1 Mini Health Centre, besides one private hospital and 4 other institutions. Thus numerically it rose to over nearly three times the number existing in 1949. A list of such institutions with their date of establishment, number of staff, bed strength, etc., is furnished in

Appendix IV. Detailed descriptions relating to the District Headquarters Hospital, the Subdivisional Hospitals, the T. B. Hospital and the St. Vincent Hospital (private) are given separately. Of these institutions, two Railway Health Units located at Baleshwar and Bhadrak are managed by the South Eastern Railway Authority, and the Police hospital and the Jail hospital at Baleshwar are managed by the Home Department of the State Government. Besides, the Gopabandhu Dispensary of Nayabazar at Baleshwar is being managed by the Baleshwar Municipality and the E. S. I. Dispensary at Baleshwar is under the control of the Labour Department of the State Government. Moreover the Lady Liew's Maternity and Child Health Centre of Baleshwar town is managed by the Health and Family Welfare Department of the State Government. There is a privately managed Nursing Home at Baleshwar.

#### **District Headquarters Hospital, Baleshwar**

A charitable dispensary known as Raja Shyamananda De Charitable Dispensary was founded by Rai Bahadur Raja Baikunthanath Dey in 1874. In 1894 a female outdoor was attached to this dispensary named as Rani Sreemati Female Charitable Dispensary. Both the dispensaries were located in the Barabati area of Baleshwar town. In 1905, Growse, the then Commissioner of Orissa Division amalgamated both the institutions and renamed it as Growse Raja Shyamananda De and Rani Sreemati Hospital. This institution was run by funds made available by the District Board and the Baleshwar Municipality with the assistance from the Government. An Assistant Surgeon of the State Medical Cadre and a lady doctor of Government Subordinate Medical Cadre were posted there by the Government. The Baleshwar Municipality provided one Sub-ordinate Medical Officer for the institution. In 1944, it was taken over by Government and was renamed as Government District Headquarters Hospital, Baleshwar. The hospital moved to its new building on 15.8.1956. After that much improvements to the hospital building have been effected and its staff augmented. Then the hospital was in charge of a Civil Surgeon and was well provided with medicines and surgical equipments. In 1961, it contained 86 beds for male and female patients. In keeping with the increasing demand and popularity, the staff strength as well as the number of beds of the hospital increased from time to time. At present it provides accommodation for 76 male and 70 female patients.

The Assistant District Medical Officer (Medical) under the overall supervision of the Chief District Medical Officer is in charge of the institution. He is assisted by as many as 33 medical

officers including 11 specialists, one in each of the branches of medicine, surgery, Obst. & Gynaecology, paediatric, orthopaedic, pathology, radiology, skin and V. D., E. N. T., eye and anaesthesia. The present staff of the hospital, besides the number of doctors mentioned above, constitute 6 pharmacists, 26 nurses and 7 other technical personnels. The hospital is mainly divided into, (1) a well equipped operation theatre, (2) a surgical ward, (3) a medicine ward, (4) a labour ward, (5) a paediatric ward, (6) an infectious ward, (7) post-mortem room and (8) administrative block. The out-patient department is held in a separate block attached to the hospital. The hospital is provided with a pathological laboratory, a X-ray machine a deep X-ray therapy and a Blood Bank. Attached to it are, a leprosy clinic, a T. B. clinic, a F. P. clinic, a dental clinic and a venereal disease clinic. Besides, anti-rabic and cancer treatment facilities are made available here. The dental clinic is in charge of a Dentist.

Ambulance service is available at Baleshwar and Bhadrak to the patients on payment. Attached to the hospital is an Auxiliary Nurse and Midwifery Training Centre with training facilities for twenty students in Auxiliary Nurse Midwifery course which extends over a period of two years. Hostel accommodation is also available for the trainees.

The following table indicates the number of in and out patients with daily average treated in the hospital during the years 1980 to 1985.

Year (1)	Indoor (2)	Outdoor (3)	Daily average	
			Indoor (4)	Outdoor (5)
1980 ..	9,131	2,13,808	152	584
1981 ..	9,992	2,53,930	161	696
1982 ..	11,217	2,54,085	160	696
1983 ..	10,937	2,80,567	175	768
1984 ..	12,383	2,86,726	178	785
1985 ..	13,424	2,89,039	187	792

#### **Subdivisional Hospital, Bhadrak**

In 1862 an allopathic hospital at Bhadrak was founded on donation by Bhagat, a philanthropic person of Cuttack. Then it was managed by the District Board, Baleshwar. The hospital was in charge of an Assistant Surgeon. Gradually developments

were made through the assistance of philanthropic persons and the Government. For water supply a deep tube-well with pipe line connection was made out of funds donated by Bhuyan Bhaskar Chandra Mahapatra. The institution was provincialised in 1944 and was renamed as Subdivisional Hospital, Bhadrak. Subsequently, the number of beds and other medical facilities were increased and a new operation theatre, maternity ward, maternity centre and Family Planning Centre, etc., were added to it. In 1961, it had 26 beds for indoor patients. At present the institution provides accommodation for 25 male and 25 female patients.

It is directly managed by the Subdivisional Medical Officer under the supervisory control of the Chief District Medical Officer, Baleshwar. He is assisted by 8 Medical Officers including 4 specialists, one in each of the branches of medicine, surgery, Obst. and gynaecology, and orthopaedic. In addition there are 3 pharmacists, 7 staff nurses, 2 midwives and many other technical and non-technical personnel. It accommodates 50 patients and the beds are allocated into separate wards like surgical, medicine, paediatric and infectious. In addition, there exists a separate operation theatre, a pathological laboratory, a post-mortem room, an out-patient department and an administrative block. Facilities for X-ray and anti-rabic treatment are also made available to the patients. Besides, T. B. clinic and Family Planning clinic are attached to the hospital.

The following table gives the number of patients treated and their daily average attendance during the years 1980 to 1985.

Year	Indoor		Outdoor	
	Patients treated	Daily average	Patients treated	Daily average
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1980 ..	6,963	95	1,24,168	340
1981 ..	6,854	111	1,22,363	335
1982 ..	6,575	100	1,16,490	319
1983 ..	6,891	167	1,76,636	484
1984 ..	8,280	157	1,53,245	353
1985 ..	8,734	148	1,49,083	408



### Subdivisional Hospital, Nilagiri

During 1860 a dispensary with indoor accommodation was started at the headquarters of the ex-state of Nilagiri in charge of an Assistant Surgeon. After merger with Baleshwar district the dispensary was converted to a hospital in 1949. Then it assumed the status of the Subdivisional Hospital. In 1961 it had accommodation for 34 patients only. No tangible improvement seems to have been made to the hospital since its inception except the maternity block which was added to it in 1957.

The Subdivisional Medical Officer is in charge of the hospital and works directly under the control and supervision of the Chief District Medical Officer, Baleshwar. He is assisted by one Assistant Surgeon, one lady Assistant Surgeon, two Pharmacists, six staff nurses and a number of technical and non-technical personnel. In addition to the above staff permanently posted to the hospital there are two specialists concerning to Medicine and Gynaecology departments.

The hospital consists of an operation theatre, an out-patient department, a post-mortem room, a labour room, a maternity ward, medical ward, a surgical ward and an infectious ward. The hospital provides forty beds which is equally divided between male and female patients. There are also an X-ray machine and a well equipped pathological laboratory. Attached to the hospital are a leprosy clinic, a family planning clinic and a T. B. clinic. Facility for the treatment of anti-rabic cases is also available here. Besides, there is an oral polio vaccine centre in the hospital. The following figures indicate the number of in and out-patients treated in the hospital with their daily average during the years 1980-85.

Year		Number of indoor patients treated	Number of outdoor patients treated	Daily average	
				Indoor	Outdoor
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1980	..	2,218	90,731	26	248
1981	..	2,466	99,463	35	272
1982	..	2,938	1,09,572	43	303
1983	...	3,253	99,867	53	268
1984	...	3,751	98,787	51	271
1985	..	3,784	90,133	47	247

**Lady Liew's Maternity and Child Health Centre, Baleshwar**

The Lady Liew's Maternity and Child Health Centre was established at Baleshwar in 1940. It was managed by the Red Cross Society till 1970. From 1971, the management was taken over by the State Government. Under the supervision of the Chief District Medical Officer, Baleshwar, one Lady Assistant Surgeon of District Headquarters Hospital is in charge of the centre. She is assisted by two auxiliary nurse midwives, one Dhai, one Aya and other non-technical staff.

Services are offered by the centre through clinical method. Antenatal and postnatal cases are examined in the centre and are given required treatment and advice. Antenatal care, delivery and postnatal care including immunisation nutritional anaemia and Prevention against blindness are done by the Lady Health Visitor, A. N. Ms. and Dhai at the door-step in the municipal area.

The following table shows the year-wise achievement of the Lady Liew's Maternity and Child Health Centre during the five years 1981 to 1985.

Year	Number of antenatal cases examined	Number of deliveries conducted	Number of postnatal cases examined	Number of oral contraceptive tablets distributed
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1981 ..	2,895	108	337	301
1982 ..	2,896	73	268	201
1983 ..	2,535	81	168	N. A.
1984 ..	2,313	97	324	N. A.
1985 ..	2,902	99	417	N. A.

(Contd.)

Year	No. of pholipher tablets distributed to expectant and nursing mothers	No. of T. T. given to expectant mothers	No. of children examined	No. of children given Vita-A solution	No. of children given D. P. T.
(1)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
1981 ..	1,587	1,480	1,022	9,235	1,923
1982 ..	1,159	644	1,323	1,500	589
1983 ..	2,586	976	1,281	2,000	823
1984 ..	11,680	1,294	1,250	6,000	1,083
1985 ..	15,000	894	1,169	7,000	765

Notes: T. T. means Tetanus Toxoid Injection and D. P. T. means Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus Injection

#### Private Hospitals and Nursing Homes

No authentic statistics is available regarding the number of general practitioners and specialists working in urban as well as in rural areas of this district. But there are a number of private practitioners of different systems practising both in rural and urban areas. Among the private hospitals mention may be made of the St. Vincent Hospital, Baleshwar. A short account of the institution is given below.

#### St. Vincent Hospital, Baleshwar

The St. Vincent Hospital was established at Baleshwar town in 1978 by a Christian Mission. It is the first institution of its kind in the district. At present it has 30 beds. These beds are equally divided between the male and female patients. The hospital is in charge of one Medical Officer who is assisted by one staff nurse and six non-technical personnel.

There are some Nursing Homes in the urban areas of the district.

#### Ayurvedic and Homeopathic Institutions

In the past the Kavirajas who practised the Ayurvedic system of treatment were popular in the district. But the development of the system was retarded to a considerable extent after the introduction of the Allopathic system. The Homeopathic system of treatment in the district came at a later stage. Now the Ayurvedic and Homeopathic systems are becoming popular under the patronage of the State Government. These systems of treatment are less expensive. The ayurvedic and homeopathic institutions in the district are directly managed by the Director of Indian Medicines and Homeopathy, Orissa, Bhubaneshwar.

### **Ayurvedic Institutions**

At present there are 25 Ayurvedic dispensaries functioning in the district. Out of these dispensaries, one is located at Baleshwar and the rest are in the rural areas. Each of these institutions is in charge of an Ayurvedic Medical Officer and an Ayurvedic Distributor. Besides, two Ayurvedic Assistants are also functioning at Baleshwar and Sartha. The number of patients treated in these dispensaries during 1985 was 3,63,261. The system of treatment has received an increased patronage from the public. Moreover, the number of patients attending these dispensaries for treatment is gradually increasing day by day. The date of establishment and location of these Ayurvedic dispensaries are given in Appendix V of this Chapter.

### **Homeopathic Institutions**

The district had 36 Government Homeopathic dispensaries in 1985. Out of these, one dispensary is located at Baleshwar town and the others are in the rural areas. The staff of each institutions chiefly constitute one Medical Officer and a Homeopathic Assistant. The number of patients treated in these dispensaries during 1985 was 10,05,305. The Homeopathic system of treatment is gaining popularity in the district and the number of patients is increasing day by day. The date of establishment and location of these institutions are given in Appendix VI of this Chapter.

### **Unani Institutions**

An Unani dispensary is functioning at Bhadrak since 1971. The dispensary is in charge of one Unani Medical Officer who is assisted by a pharmacist and a distributor. The number of patients treated in the Unani dispensary during 1985 was 13,241. Besides, the Regional Research Institute on Unani medicines was established at Bhadrak in 1979 by the Government of India.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH**

### **Sanitation**

Organised and systematic schemes of sanitation were practically unknown outside the town of Baleshwar till the beginning of the present century. Writing in 1877, about the town of Baleshwar Sir William Hunter remarked "Till lately no attempt was made at sanitation. Balasore town contains no fewer than 11,000 tanks not one of which can be said to be in a wholesome state. The tanks are the receptacle of every sort of filth, fluid and solid". Since that time the sanitation of the town had been greatly improved. Tanks had been cleared out, drains opened and conservancy rules enforced. The drainage of the town is good, all surplus water

finding a ready exit, and these natural facilities had been aided by the introduction of an extensive system of drains and by the removal of the old drains which terminated in cess-pools.

In the interior, the state of affairs is different. Wells had been sunk and tanks cleaned, but there has been no serious attempt to improve the conditions prevailing in the Mufasil villages. Apathy of the people and the unwholesome habits to which they are rooted render the task of village sanitation on any appreciable scale most difficult. The villages abound in filthy pits and hollows containing water of the foulest character and full of decaying vegetation which constituted a standing menace to public health. The houses throughout the district were built of mud dug up from the vicinity; and the result was that in the neighbourhood of almost every hut or house there was a dirty pit, filled to overflowing with water in the rainy season, and the receptacle of every description of filth.

In course of time the people have become more conscious about their health and sanitation through mass education and propaganda by government agencies. Since independence the government have also implemented a number of successful schemes to maintain a healthy atmosphere by taking protective and curative measures both in urban and rural areas of the district, particularly in sinking a large number of tube-wells for supply of pure potable water.

#### **Administrative set-up in urban and rural areas**

There existed, at different times different organisational pattern for the maintenance of public health and sanitation in the district. Since 1949, the Health Officer, under the control of the Civil Surgeon, Baleshwar was in charge of the public health administration. According to the present set-up, the Assistant District Medical Officer (P. H.) is directly responsible for the public health affairs in the district and is under the overall control and supervisory authority of the Chief District Medical Officer.

In the urban areas sanitation is managed by the municipal or Notified Area Council authorities. In the Baleshwar municipality, one Health Officer, three Sanitary Inspectors and four Disinfectors have been posted. The Assistant District Medical Officer (P. H.), Baleshwar is in charge of the Bhadrak Notified Area Council as Health Officer. There are one Sanitary Inspector and one Disinfectors to look after the sanitation work. Besides, a Leave Reserve Sanitary Inspector is deputed from the District Headquarters Hospital to assist them. The sanitation of Jaleshwar, Soro and Basudebpur

Notified Area Councils is managed by the Sanitary Inspector of the concerned Primary Health Centres. These officers work under the Assistant District Medical Officer. Separate full and part-time conservancy staff are maintained by the respective municipality and Notified Area Councils.

During big fairs and festivals, temporary conservancy staff are usually appointed to cope with the extra burden of work. There are full-time Food Inspectors for food sanitation in both urban and rural areas of the district.

The sanitation in rural areas is managed by the Medical Officer of the Primary Health Centre. He works under the supervision of the Assistant District Medical Officer (P. H.) and the Chief District Medical Officer and is assisted by three Sanitary Inspectors, four special Cholera Workers and four Vaccinators. Under various health schemes and programmes, different categories of public health staff are working in rural and urban areas for maintenance of health and sanitation in the district.

Besides, one Medical Officer, Mobile Field Hygiene Unit; one Assistant Health Officer and one Medical Officer, Cholera Combat Team; are posted in the district.

### **Activities of Health and Sanitary Organisations**

Prevention and control of main communicable diseases, provision of protected water supply, drainage and performance of various other functions like slum clearance, etc., broadly constitute the activities of the Health and Sanitary organisations. Brief accounts of different programmes for the maintenance of health and sanitary conditions in the district are furnished below.

#### **T. B. Control Programme**

Under the supervision of the Chief District Medical Officer, the District Tuberculosis Officer is directly in charge of the District T. B. Control Centre. He is assisted, besides the non-technical staff, by an Assistant Surgeon (Specialist), one Treatment Organiser, two Male Health Visitors, a Laboratory Technician and an X-ray technician. In the preventive wing, the B. C. G. team consists of a team leader and 7 technicians. The total number of beds provided in the centre is 18. It is provided with 6 observation beds and 12 isolation beds for the treatment of indoor and outdoor patients. T. B. Clinic has been merged to the T. B. Control Centre and both treatment and curative facilities are made available here. In the T. B. isolation ward some cases are admitted for the period of two to three months. The B. C. G. team undertakes testing and B. C. G. vaccination given to infants through all Primary Health Centres as a preventive.

Till July 1986 there were 45 T. B. centres in the district. Besides, all Primary Health Centres, Subdivisional Hospitals and dispensaries of the district are also taking part in the programme to give full coverage to the rural population for diagnostic and treatment of T. B. patients.

To intensify case detection and to ensure community participation, sputum case finding survey camps are held from time to time, involving community leaders, Block level health staffs by way of individual contacts, film shows, message through pamphlets and playing of pre-recorded cassettes containing different aspects of the programme.

Refresher course for Medical Officers of peripheral units and general practitioners was organised during 1985 to make them acquainted with different programme procedures.

The table given below indicates the activities of T. B. Control Programme since 1980 to 1985.

Year	Case detection			Total	B. C. G. vaccination
	Sputum +Ve	X-ray +Ve	Ext. pul.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1980	330	476	186	992	67,240 (0—20 years)
1981	423	434	196	1,053	70,611 (0—20 years)
1982	431	558	193	1,182	53,436 (0—20 years)
1983	580	1,051	341	1,972	46,010 (0—20 years)
1984	789	1,063	417	2,269	52,520 (0—20 years)
1985	909	1,424	480	2,813	39,129 (0—4 years)

### National Malaria Eradication Programme

The Baleshwar unit of the National Malaria Control Programme was started in the year 1954 and the scheme continued as such till 1958. Generally insecticidal spray and other anti-malaria measures were taken under the programme. The incidence of the disease was reduced considerably. In 1958, the National Malaria Control Programme was converted into the National Malaria Eradication Programme and under it both insecticidal

spray and surveillance work were carried out extensively in the district. In 1960, the incidence of malaria was reduced to a great extent and some portions of the district was kept under the maintenance phase and the other areas where malaria positive incidence was still prevalent, was kept under the consolidation phase with the provision for focal spray.

For efficient implementation of the scheme and to render immediate services to the people, a modified plan of operation was introduced in 1978. Under the programme the district achieved 33 per cent reduction in malaria incidence in 1978. Still there are some Community Development Blocks, namely, Oupada, Berhampur and Baliapal which are endemic for malaria.

In view of the detection of falciparum malaria, six Community Development Blocks in the district, viz., Bhograi, Jaleshwar, Baliapal, Basta, Nilagiri and Oupada have been taken up for the intensive measures by W. H. O.

The District Malaria Officer is directly in charge of the programme. He works under the control of the Chief District Medical Officer and is assisted by two Assistant Malaria Officers in the management of office and field works. The District Malaria Officer supervises the activities of his sub-ordinates and issues technical instructions.

The Medical Officer of each Primary Health Centre in the district mainly supervises all the activities of the National Malaria Eradication Programme in his area in addition to his other duties and issues technical instructions. The laboratory technician daily examines about 50 to 60 blood slides and maintains the concerned records, charts, graphs, maps, etc. The Surveillance Inspector supervises the work of the surveillance workers, who visit every house at an interval of about 15 to 30 days to search out fever cases within their areas. They also conduct treatment when malaria-positive cases are discovered. The superior and inferior field workers attached to the laboratory assist the technician in his work. The temporary workers conduct spray operation in the areas under the attack phase. The area under the attack phase is served annually with two rounds of D. D. T. spray. Similarly in the area included under the consolidation phase regular surveillance is carried out and focal spray planned. The Community Health Volunteers are appointed for every 1000 population in the district to give presumptive treatment to all fever cases and to collect blood slides for examination. For better treatment of malaria, the Drug Distribution Centres are



also opened in the villages. In each village there is well-known village member who has been entrusted to give a single dose of presumptive treatment to all fever cases when required by the people.

The number of staff engaged for the implementation of the programme, except the ministerial and other non-technical personnel, is furnished below.

Name of staff	Number
District Malaria Officer ..	1
Assistant Malaria Officer ..	2
Surveillance and Basic Health Inspector ..	49
Surveillance and Basic Health Worker ..	199
P. H. C. Medical Officer ..	19
Laboratory Technician ..	20
Superior Field Workers ..	2
Inferior Field Workers ..	5

Besides, a good number of superior and inferior field workers are temporarily engaged as per requirement.

The activities of the unit during 1980—85 are given below.

(1)	Under Surveillance			
	Blood Slides		Positive cases	
	Collected	Examined	Detected	Treated
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1980 ..	2,49,385	2,49,385	8,502	7,514
1981 ..	2,30,259	2,30,259	5,451	4,930
1982 ..	2,29,733	2,29,733	4,937	4,459
1983 ..	2,51,512	2,51,512	5,658	5,321
1984 ..	2,34,408	2,34,408	3,379	3,242
1985 ..	2,15,656	2,15,656	2,661	2,542

During the above period, there is a declining tendency in the positive case rate since 1984.

The table below gives the details of insecticidal spray undertaken during the years 1982 to 1985.

Year	No. of houses sprayed	No. of population projected ( in lakhs )
1982	.. 1,94,840	8.6
1983	.. 2,34,045	8.10
1984	.. 2,78,064	12.7
1985	.. 84,205	3.6

### National Filaria Control Programme

During the year 1971-72, two National Filaria Control Programme units were established at Baleshwar and Bhadrak to control transmission of filaria in these towns. According to the instructions of the Government of India the activities of the Programme are confined to the urban areas only. Further two Filaria Clinics have been established during 1984-85 at Baleshwar and Bhadrak and are attached to the National Filaria Control Programme. The activities undertaken by the units under the Programme include anti-larval operation to check the rising trend of mosquito population by using various larvicides and treatment of micro-filaria carriers and disease manifestation cases.

The Health Officer of the Baleshwar Municipality is in charge of the National Filaria Control Programme and the Filaria Clinic at Baleshwar. The Medical Officer of Bhadrak National Filaria Control Programme is in charge of the N. F. C. P. unit and the Filaria Clinic at Bhadrak.

The total strength of the principal staff entertained in the district for implementation of the scheme are four Filaria Inspectors, five Superior Field Workers and two Insect Collectors.

In these two towns anti-larval measures are undertaken to reduce the density of vector mosquitoes for filariasis. To assess the impact of anti-larval operation mosquito collection, mosquito dissection, etc, are being made and infection rate, infectivity rates are assessed. Night blood survey is conducted to detect the micro filariasis and disease manifestation cases for treatment of the same.

The tables in the next two pages show the achievements of these two units and clinics made under the scheme during the years 1981 to 1985.

## N. F. C. P., Baleshwar Unit and Clinic

Year	O. M. H. D. of C. Fatigan	Mosquito infection rate	Mosquito infectivity rate	Blood slides collected and examined
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1981	..	34.8	..	543
1982	..	38.8	4.3	1,462
1983	..	39.7	0.8	541
1984	..	37.7	..	..
1985	..	44.8	3	711

Year	Blood slides +ve for M. F.	M. F. rate	Disease rate
(1)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1981	14	2.58	17.5
1982	26	1.7	7.5
1983	7	1.2	22.7
1984	..	..	..
1985	19	2.6	22.5

## N. F. C. P., Bhadrak Unit and Clinic

Year	O. M. H. D. of C. Fatigan	Mosquito infection rate	Mosquito infectivity rate	Blood slides collected and examined
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1981	46.2	..	..	454
1982	44.5	..	..	50
1983	..	..	..	..
1984	..	..	..	..
1985	37.4	63.5	...	669

Year	Blood slides +Ve for M. F.	M. F. rate	Disease rate
(1)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1981	12	2.64	..
1982	..	..	..
1983	..	..	..
1984	..	..	..
1985	1	0.95	37.33

### Anti-Leprosy Measures

There is a District Leprosy Officer in the district under the administrative control of the Chief District Medical Officer. Four Leprosy Eradication Units are functioning at Baleshwar, Jaleshwar, Bhadrak and Chandbali with a Medical Officer in charge of each unit. Under these units 71 para Medical Workers are working for detection of new leprosy cases and treatment. Besides, there are 11 S. E. T. (Survey, Education & Training) centres and 12 Rural Leprosy Clinics in the district. One para Medical Worker is working in each centre or clinic who is attached to the Medical Officer of the institution of the area where the centre or clinic is located.

There is a leprosy colony located at Bampada adjacent to Baleshwar town named Lewi's Leprosy Colony. It is functioning since 1944. 20 beds have been provided in this colony and it is managed by Hind Kustha Nivaran Sangha under the supervision of the Assistant District Medical Officer (P. H.) who is the District Honorary Secretary. One Rehabilitation centre is also functioning in the same colony premises since 1983. Adjacent to the Bampada Leprosy Colony, one temporary hospitalisation ward has been established since December 1981, with a provision for 20 beds.

The year-wise achievements made under the scheme for the period 1981-82 to 1985-86 in the district is given below.

Year	No. of leprosy cases detected	No. of leprosy cases treated
(1)	(2)	(3)
1981-82	17,394	12,895
1982-83	3,171	3,171
1983-84	2,673	2,673
1984-85	3,099	3,099
1985-86	2,879	2,879

## **Family Welfare**

Family Planning later termed as Family Welfare Programme was implemented in the district as early as 1956. The District Family Welfare Bureau was established during 1964. It became a target-oriented and time-bound programme and its activities were chiefly confined to the distribution of conventional contraceptives. Only some Family Planning Clinics were then established and sterilization facilities were made available in the hospitals of the district.

The responsibility for implementation of the programme directly devolves on the Assistant District Medical Officer (Family Welfare, and Maternity Child Health) who works under the supervisory control of the Chief District Medical Officer. He is in-charge of the District Family Welfare Bureau consisting of four units—administrative, mass education and information, field and evaluation, and operation of Mobile Service Unit. The staff of the Bureau consists of one Administrative Officer, one District Mass Education and Information Officer, two Deputy Mass Education and Information Officers, and one Statistical Investigator, who respectively head the above mentioned units. For maternity and child health (MCH) work, there is one District Public Health Nurse. The Medical Officer, Primary Health Centre, looks after the Rural Family Welfare Organizations with the assistance of a Block Extension Educator, a Lady Health Visitor, the Auxiliary Nurse Midwives and other field workers. Besides, there are several other technical and non-technical personnel attached to the Bureau. Each of the Urban Family Welfare Centres is provided with one Block Extension Educator, one Auxiliary Nurse Midwife and Male Field Worker. The principal staff of a pilot project centre consists of a specialist (Obst. and Gynaecology), two Assistant Surgeons (male and female), a Block Extension Educator, a staff nurse, a Lady Health Visitor, an Auxiliary Midwife, a Male Field Worker, a Projectionist and the Aya.

Facilities for sterilization operation and the I. U. C. D. insertion (Intra Uterine Contraceptive Device) are made available in all the hospitals and dispensaries of the district.

The table given in the next 3 pages indicates the achievements made under the Family Welfare Programme during the period 1980-81 to 1985-86.

## Achievements under Family Welfare Programme

Year	Number of sterilisation conducted			Number of I. U. C. D. insertions		
	Vasectomy (2)	Tubectomy (3)	Total (4)	Loop (5)	CU, 'T' (6)	Total (7)
(1)						
1980-81	...	730	6,689	39	2,247	2,286
1981-82	..	630	9,049	9	2,034	2,043
1982-83	..	1,337	15,021	17	3,785	3,802
1983-84	..	586	20,158	..	5,456	5,456
1984-85	..	219	13,562	..	7,879	7,879
1985-86	..	433	17,552	..	9,376	9,376

(Contd.)

Year	Number of conventional contraceptive users	Number of oral pills distributed in cycles	Number of M. T. P.	Titnus Toxoid immunisation to expectant mothers		D.P.T. Immunisation of children (0—2 years)	
				Primary	Booster dose	Primary	Booster dose
(1)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
1980-81	3,158	3,070	1,543	17,248	1,611	24,173	1,917
1981-82	4,549	2,912	2,746	24,384	3,031	23,516	2,059
1982-83	10,474	7,010	2,817	24,697	6,044	33,710	2,310
1983-84	13,615	18,227	3,228	29,623	5,130	37,029	4,369
1984-85	12,144	19,077	2,305	32,988	6,705	39,545	4,090
1985-86	14,511	27,927	2,359	29,895	7,034	33,681	3,549

(Contd.)



Year	D. P. T. Immunisation of children (3—8 years)		Prophylaxis against Anaemia			Prophylaxis against blindness caused by Vitamin 'A' deficiency children (0—5 years)	
	Primary	Booster dose	Expectant and nursing mothers	Other women	Children	1st dose	2nd dose
(1)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
1980-81	41,957	4,571	12,618	5,421	21,686	96,942	48,043
1981-82	42,821	4,313	24,244	13,132	43,004	102,944	39,871
1982-83	33,180	2,001	36,045	10,358	43,900	86,578	40,959
1983-84	39,767	2,612	27,877	13,055	54,299	105,798	57,364
1984-85	45,680	3,065	32,598	7,685	42,674	127,624	39,684
1985-86	26,199	1,416	20,893	3,854	27,118	132,499	63,178

(Conc'd.)

The year-wise activities of Maternity and Child Health organization made under the programme for the period 1980-81 to 1984-85 is furnished below :

Year		Number of Antenatal cases registered	Number of Post-natal cases registered	Number of delivery conducted
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)
1980-81	..	26,640	18,226	18,689
1981-82	..	29,271	18,335	19,896
1982-83	..	30,990	18,249	21,490
1983-84	..	33,445	17,721	19,319
1984-85	..	36,147	21,403	22,917

### **Nutrition Programme**

In 1959, the State Nutrition Division was started under the administrative control of the Health and Family Planning Department except for a few years from 1964 to 1970 when it functioned under the Community Development Department.

Potentially the programme is very important in promoting the health and preventing diseases of the people. To know the food habits and diet patterns of the rural mass and to assess nutritional stage of the vulnerable groups, the Nutrition Division conducts now and then base line dietary (food consumption) and nutrition assessment survey as well as evaluation survey in the Applied Nutrition Programme (A. N. P.) Blocks allotted by the Community Development Department. This scheme also affords an effective field service to improve local diet through production, preservation and use of protective foods and ensures their effective utilisation by the vulnerable sections. Simple nutrition principles are imparted to the masses through practical demonstrations.

Out of 8 A. N. P. Blocks, a Dietary (food consumption) and Nutrition Assessment Survey of Baleshwar, Basta, Khaira and Tihiri have been conducted by the State Nutrition Division. Besides, a rapid Nutritional Survey was also made in Tihiri A. N. P. Block when it was affected by flood during the year 1976. A practical demonstration of "Infant Diet" was conducted by the Lady Nutrition Officer during the period of symposium organized by this Block in the year 1977.

The Nutrition Division supervises the feeding centres from time to time under Special Nutrition Programme, CARE, Special Child Relief Programme and World Food Programme implemented by the Community Development Department in the district.

### Drugs Control

The Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 is in force in Orissa since 1st April, 1947. For the first time in the state one Provincial Drugs Inspector was posted in 1951 at Bhubaneswar for enforcement of the said Act. It continued till the middle of 1967 and after that five ranges were created for the state. The Baleshwar district was under the control of Western Range with headquarters at Cuttack.

The office of the Drugs Inspector, Baleshwar Range, with headquarters at Baleshwar started functioning since 1970. He is directly under the supervisory control of the Drug Controller, Orissa. The important functions of the organisation are enforcement of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and other allied Acts, and Rules made thereunder. The Inspector in course of his duties chiefly attends to the complaints relating to the adverse drug reactions and sale of substandard and spurious drugs and cosmetics. He conducts surprise checks on the sale premises, seizes suspected batch of drugs, looks into the availability of essential drugs in the district, scrutinises the objectionable advertisements and enforces the Dangerous Drugs Act, in collaboration with the excise authorities. Further, he ensures the drugs price display and price control and issues essentiality certificates to the Pharmaceutical industries. Actions under the provisions of the relevant facts are taken against the sale of misbranded and substandard drugs. Frequently surprise inspections are conducted against misuse and sale of the dangerous drugs, such as, morphine and pethidine at higher price. But the performance of the Inspector in the district is very poor as will appear from the achievements of the organization given in the following table :

Year	Sales premises inspected	Show cause notices suggested to the licensing authority	Prosecution launched	Number of samples drawn	Complaints received and reported after investigation
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1980-81	135	6	..	38	2
1981-82	106	4	..	45	1
1982-83	103	9	..	79	4
1983-84	111	25	2	97	5
1984-85	121	9	..	92	3
1985-86	80	17	..	40	2

### Veneral disease

In most of the hospitals and dispensaries in the district facilities are available for the treatment of veneral disease.

### Prevention of Food Adulteration and Water Pollution

The Director of Health & Family Planning Services, Orissa is the Food Health Authority under the provisions of the Central Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, which came into force in the entire state of Orissa in the year 1959. Under him there are two part-time Food Inspectors, i.e., the Chief District Medical Officer and the Assistant District Medical Officer (P. H.) who are directly incharge of implementation of the Act. Besides, there is one whole-time Food Inspector for the collection of food samples in the district. The Chief District Medical Officer, Baleshwar acts as the licencing authority under the Act to grant license in respect of manufacture and sale of food articles within his jurisdiction.

The table below shows the year-wise achievement of food samples collected from the district during the period 1980—85.

Year	No. of food samples drawn	No. of food samples examined	No. of samples found adulterated	No. of water samples collected and examined
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1980	58	58	12	..
1981	43	43	19	..
1982	45	45	16	..
1983	70	70	15	..
1984	58	58	18	..
1985	86	86	25	..

During the above period, no water samples from the district were collected or examined under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act.

### Health Education

The Health Education Bureau according to the pattern prescribed by the Government of India, was started in the state in 1960 and was attached to the Director of Health & Family Planning Services.

Orissa. The objectives of the scheme are to make the people realise their responsibility about their own health, the health of their family and that of the community at large. The State Health Education Bureau, Bhubaneswar takes up health education activities in the district by deputing Health Education Units during flood, cyclone and epidemics when required by the Chief District Medical Officer. It mainly sends health education materials like posters and pamphlets on communicable disease, public health activities, etc., to the Chief District Medical Officer and the Primary Health Centres of the district. The staff of the Primary Health Centre like Medical Officer, Lady Health Visitors and Sanitary Inspectors utilise them for disseminating sanitary and hygienic principles among the vulnerable groups.

It also takes part in public education programmes during fairs and festivals in the district. The big Mela at Chandaneswar is attended by the staff of the State Health Education Bureau every year with health education materials like posters, health literature, Audio Visual equipments, etc., for educating the surrounding villagers and pilgrims on festival sanitation, food, water and environmental sanitation and on different communicable diseases.

Besides, the National School Health Programme has also been implemented in the district to impart school health education and health examination of the primary school students. The primary objective of the scheme is to cover the students of primary schools of the hilly, the tribal and the backward area of the district. The Primary Health Centre, Berhampur under Nilagiri C. D. Block has been selected by the Government of India for this purpose.

### **School Health Service**

The School Health Service is one of the oldest schemes. It is working as a link in the general health programme. The School Health Service aims at preventing various diseases, and malnutrition among the school children of 0—15 age-group and protects them against future health hazards. The Government have formulated a scheme to undertake the medical examination of the students from the Primary to the High English schools. Accordingly, the Medical Officer examines the students at regular intervals and suggests remedial measures to the concerned students wherever any defect is noticed.

The following table indicates the jurisdiction of the Medical Officers according to the present set-up of the School Health Service.

Name of the Medical Officer	Jurisdiction and category of school.
(1)	(2)
School Medical Officer with headquarters at Cuttack	All the Boy's High English schools of the district
School Lady Medical Officer with headquarters at Bhubaneswar	All the Girl's High English schools of the district
Assistant District Medical Officer (P. H.), Baleswar	All the Boy's Middle English schools of the district
Lady Assistant Surgeons of the Subdivisional and District Headquarters Hospitals who are in-charge of the M. C. H. programme	All the Girl's Middle English schools of the district
Medical Officer of the Primary Health Centres of the district	All Primary school located within their respective jurisdictions

The School Medical Officer with headquarters at Cuttack examines the students of all the Boy's High Schools and the School Lady Medical Officer with headquarters at Bhubaneswar undertakes the medical examination of the girl students of all the Girl's High Schools of the district. There is an Assistant District Medical Officer (P. H.) for the medical examination of the students of Boy's Middle English schools. But the girls students of the Girl's Middle English schools of the district are examined by the Lady Assistant Surgeons of the Subdivisional and the District Headquarters Hospitals who are in charge of the Maternity and Child Health Programme. The Medical Officers of the Primary Health Centres are generally conducting the medical examination of the students of Primary Schools located within their jurisdictions in the district.

### **National School Health Service**

According to the instruction of the Government of India, the National School Health Service, another new scheme, has been started since 1977 in some selected C.D. Blocks of this district. The Primary Health Centre located at Berhampur under the Nilagiri Block of the district has been selected and the scheme is in operation there. The Primary Health Centre was provided with the cumulative health records, books, health kits and other school health materials for proper implementation of the scheme. The Medical Officer of the Primary Health Centre examines all the children of the Primary Schools located under the Block area at least twice during

their school years. The Assistant District Medical Officer (P. H.) is entrusted to supervise the activities and progress of the scheme. Under the present scheme the school children are given necessary protection by preventive measures like inoculation against cholera when required.

Besides, under the National Leprosy Control Scheme the school children are surveyed by the para Medical Workers. The cases detected among the school children are treated with anti-leprosy drugs. So far 19,465 number of school children have been physically examined and 9 cases of early leprosy were detected.

Under the Immunisation Programme the school children are given immunisation in order to protect them from communicable diseases such as, diptheria, pertussis, tetanus, measles, T. B. and typhoid. During the year 1979, nearly 16,291 school children were given D. P. T. immunisation in the district.

The following table indicates the number of High English school students examined under the school health service during the period 1983—85.

Year	Students examined	Students found defective
(1)	(2)	(3)
1983	18,199	6,184
1984	15,984	5,591
1985	11,026	3,284

### **Cholera Control Programme**

The Cholera Control Programme started functioning in the district from 1970. Under this programme, 14 Cholera Supervisors and 56 Special Cholera Workers were engaged. Besides, the Sanitary Inspector and the Supervisor of the Primary Health Centre were also responsible to prevent outbreak of cholera within their allotted areas.

A Cholera Combat Team consisting of a Medical Officer, a Laboratory Technician, a Sanitary Inspector and two A. N. M. S. (Auxiliary Nurse-Midwives) is in operation in the district since June, 1979. They generally camp in the affected areas until normalcy is restored. They undertake both curative and preventive measures. They look to the health education of the masses. Normally they supervise regular chlorination of wells and other drinking and domestic water resources. Besides, they also collect samples of stool where outbreak of cholera is suspected for taking suitable remedial measures.

Under the Cholera Control Programme each of the 19 C.D. Blocks of the district has been provided with a Sanitary Inspector and a Disinfecter. They work directly under the supervision of the Medical Officers of the Primary Health Centres. For each unit of 5,000 population one Multipurpose Worker (male) has been posted to visit the villages under his charge once every fortnight. During the visit he looks after the sanitation of the village and imparts suitable advice to the villagers on better aspect of health. Besides, he gives quick information regarding outbreak of cholera to the Primary Health Centre for immediate action.

For each 1000 population as per 1971 Census one Community Health Volunteer (C. H. V.) has been engaged after due training in the Primary Health Centre to look after the sanitation of the villages, to impart suitable advice to the villagers on promotion of health. He also gives quick information regarding outbreak of the diseases to the primary Health Centre for taking necessary action.

The achievements made under the programme during the years 1980 to 1985 are given in the following table:

Year	Cholera		Gastroenteritis		
	No. admitted	No. of deaths	No. admitted	No. of deaths	No. of inoculation performed
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1981	58	6	178	29	273,067
1982	26	5	607	102	475,327
1983	60	6	458	70	357,373
1984	Nil	Nil	564	54	269,259
1985	42	4	638	75	484,927

Year	Disinfection of			
	Wells	Houses	No. of stool samples collected	No. found positive
(1)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
1981	35,703	217	119	15
1982	61,667	520	134	11
1983	45,857	488	159	16
1984	43,859	430	41	—
1985	37,168	657	58	5



### **Small-pox Eradication Programme**

Baleshwar, not unlike other districts of Orissa, was not free from superstitious beliefs about this malady. Supernatural agencies were regarded as the cause of its occurrence. As in other parts of the state, small-pox was worshipped as a form of goddess in the Baleshwar district from time immemorial. Every year it was taking a heavy toll of human lives.

Vaccination as a preventive measure against small-pox was unpopular among all classes in Orissa. Mass vaccination campaign under the Small-pox Education Programme was undertaken in 1961-62. With the implementation of the National Small-pox Eradication Programme in 1970-71 in Orissa, the district was also brought under it. Since 1973, the strategy of the programme chiefly constituted the safeguarding of the new-born children by primary vaccination, re-vaccinating the adult members once in every three years conducting door-to-door surveillance and taking precautionary measures against future outbreaks.

The execution of the programme chiefly rests with the Assistant District Medical Officer (P.H.) who is assisted by the Medical Officer of the Primary Health Centres. The staff of the S.E.P. (Small-pox Eradication Programme) allotted to each Primary Health Centre comprises one Sanitary Inspector and 3 to 4 Vaccinators. At present there are 20 S.E.P. Supervisors (Sanitary Inspectors) working in the district. During the normal time the S.E.P. Supervisors prepare the plan and programme of vaccination and supervise the field activities. During the outbreak of epidemic they generally institute outbreak containment measures in the affected villages. Besides, they also supervise the immunisation programme in the district against the major childhood diseases which are preventable through immunisation. The vaccinators mainly carry out vaccination and containment measures against small-pox. In the present set-up they also undertake immunisation programme of children against diphtheria. In the urban areas the local bodies are responsible for the implementation of the programme. The vaccinators of the S.E.P. staff have been posted in the Baleshwar Municipality and the Bhadrak Notified Area Council.

Besides, there is a Mobile Squad consisting of five vaccinators at the district headquarters to conduct special campaigns and to meet the exigencies of epidemics. Posted at Baleshwar, Jaleshwar and Bhadrak, there are three Paramedical Assistants who assist the Assistant District Medical Officer (P.H.) in supervising the activities of the National Small-pox Eradication Programme and

immunisation work in the district. They also supervise the performance of the vaccinators and the S. E. P. supervisors (Sanitary Inspectors) under their jurisdictions.

The following table shows the data of small-pox incidence and the achievements made in the field of vaccination in the district for the period 1969—77.

Year		No. of cases	
		Reported	Deaths
(1)		(2)	(3)
1969	..	309	72
1970	..	5	2
1971	..	7	1
1972	..	0	0
1973	..	464	85
1974	..	363	72
1975	..	0	0
1976	..	0	0
1977	..	0	0

Year		Number of vaccination performed		No. of rounds of door to door search done in each year
		Primary vaccination	Re-vaccination	
(1)		(4)	(5)	(6)
1969	..	1,15,915	27,673	
1970	..	1,04,278	1,49,881	
1971	..	1,19,256	3,51,926	
1972	..	1,35,107	5,22,871	
1973	..	11,054	5,50,701	2 rounds village to village
1974	..	81,683	5,09,552	2 rounds door to door
1975	..	52,776	2,79,986	7 rounds door to door
1976	..	54,413	1,76,385	4 rounds door to door
1977	..	38,290	64,238	1 round door to door in inaccessible areas only

The outbreak of small-pox was last reported from the areas Telengapati under the Bhadrak Notified Area Council in the early part of 1974. The district has been made free from small-pox from the 23rd September, 1974.

Besides house-to-house active rounds, search for small-pox cases had been carried out in schools, markets, Melas, etc. To know if there is any hidden case of small-pox about 17 rounds of active searches for small-pox cases had also been conducted from door-to-door with special attention in the inaccessible areas of the district. Thereafter no new case could be detected notwithstanding the intensive investigation combinedly made by the officers of the state as well as the World Health Organisation. With a view to ensuring detection of small-pox incidence a reward of Rs. 1,000 was declared for the first informer. But no reward has been made in case of small-pox as it has not been detected.

On 23rd April 1977, the Internal Assessment Committee on small-pox declared the district to be free from the disease of small-pox. Since then National Eradication Programme has strived to achieve this goal. The primary vaccination to the new-born and the unprotected children has been stopped since 1981-82.

A new scheme of Expanded Programme on Immunisation (E.P.I.) was started in the district in 1978. All the staff of National Small-pox Eradication Programme (N.S.E.P.) have been retained to take up the activities of immunisation against the childhood communicable diseases of diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough) tetanus, measles, tuberculosis, polio and typhoid.

The following table gives the activities of E. P. I. in the district.

Name of immunisation (1)	Age group (2)
D, P. T. (Diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus)	0—2 Years
D. T. (Diphtheria, tetanus)	.. 5—6 Years
T. T. (tetanus toxide)	.. Pregnant women, children of 10 years to 16 years
T. A. (Typhoid antigen)	.. 56 years
Oral Polio	.. 0—2 Years

#### **Underground Drainage and Protected Water-supply**

In recent years various schemes have been implemented in the district to provide the people both in the urban as well as the rural areas with portable water. Presently four towns, viz., Balেশwar, Bhadrak, Basudebpur and Chandbali, and two villages

of Dhamnagar and Ertal have been provided with piped water. The execution and maintenance of the water supply schemes for the towns of Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Basudebpur, and the two villages of Dhamnagar and Ertal have been vested with the Executive Engineer, Baleshwar Public Health Division. He also looks after the maintenance of the Chandbali piped water supply project. The Executive Engineer, DANIDA Project Public Health Division, Bhadrak executed the project of piped water supply to Chandbali town. A short account of each of the water supply projects working in the district is given below.

### **Baleshwar town Water-supply Scheme**

The first water supply scheme of the town was prepared in the year 1963 at an estimated cost of Rs. 26 lakhs. Subsequently, due to increase of population, there was acute scarcity of water and hence a permanent water supply scheme for Rs. 67.05 lakhs was prepared with provision for 16 numbers of tube-wells. Since these sources could not meet the demand, an additional sum of Rs. 6.63 lakhs was sanctioned to increase water supply. The scheme was completed in March, 1982.

From January 1986, 6.81 million litres of water is supplied daily to the town against a population of nearly 66,000 and thereby the *per-capita* supply comes to approximately 103.18 liters per day. Till today 2,350 water connections have been provided to private houses, 357 connections to government buildings and 291 street stand post have also been provided for public use.

Besides piped water supply to the town, 53 tube-wells have been provided at different places in the town where piped water supply facility is not available.

### **Bhadrak Town Water-supply Scheme**

The execution of the Bhadrak town water supply system was started in 1973. The scheme has been completed in all respect excepting commissioning of 2 large dia high yielding gravel packed tube-wells. At present 3.50 lakhs gallons\* of water is being supplied to the town.

Till today 415 house connections including government buildings have been given in the town. There are 98 stand posts provided to the town. In addition 153 hand pump tube-wells were sunk where piped water supply facilities are not available.

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\* 10 gallons; 45.46 litres.

### **Pilot Piped Water-supply Scheme to Chandbali**

In 1981, on request of Government of India, the DANIDA (Danish International Development Agency) has undertaken a major project for supply of drinking water in the coastal areas of Baleshwar, Cuttack and Puri districts.

The scheme of piped water supply to Chandbali town has been completed and water supply is effected since 8th June, 1985. 70 stand posts and 25 house connections have been provided so far. A diesel generating set has been installed since March, 1985 to overcome power failure at Chandbali.

The main work of the DANIDA Public Health Division, Bhadrak which executed the Chandbali piped water supply project is to provide adequate number of new tube-wells (at the rate of 1 number for a population of over 225) in the year 1991. 263 revenue villages are covered in this programme.

### **Piped Water-supply to Basudebpur**

The piped water supply to Basudebpur town commenced during 1966-67 having one 4" dia tube-well fitted with 3 H. P. Eject to pump at the source. There were 29 numbers of stand posts for supply of drinking water to the whole town. Due to inadequate water supply one 8" dia tube-well was sunk in 1980 having a yield of 4,000 gallons per hour and a 7.5 H. P. submersible pump has been fitted during December, 1982. From that date regular water supply through 25 numbers of stand posts have been commenced. Recently, 12 numbers of private connections have been given from this water-supply system.

### **Piped Water-supply to Dhamnagar**

The water-supply scheme to Dhamnagar was executed during 1965 at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.633 lakhs. Almost all the works have been completed except the balancing tank. In this scheme there was provision of supplying water through 33 double mouthed stand posts. Due to damage by flood in 1975, water-supply is being effected only through 16 numbers of stand posts in addition to 20 numbers of hand pump tube-wells.

### **Piped Water-supply to Ertal**

The water-supply to Ertal commenced during the year 1970-71 at an estimated cost of Rs. 2.06 lakhs having one 4" dia tube-well fitted with 3 H. P. Eject to pump at source. The water is being supplied to the whole village through 18 numbers of single mouthed stand posts in two shifts. The yield of existing tube-well had greatly been reduced.

## **Rural Water Supply**

As stated elsewhere no specific attention was given previously to the problem of providing the rural people with potable water. The people were generally depending on the polluted water of the tanks, wells, pools, rivers, etc. In the past few years, different schemes have been undertaken at different times to fulfil their requirements.

About 3,555 villages of the district have been identified as drinking water problem villages by survey and investigation till the end of 1985. During this period 10,015 tube-wells were installed in identified drinking water problem villages. This apart 1,443 tube-wells were also provided in unidentified problem villages under various schemes. There are 213 drinking water tube-wells in the district. During 1982-83, a sum of Rs. 187.40 lakhs was received for the original installation of tube-well whereas in 1984-85, Rs. 158.12 lakhs were provided for the purpose.

Steps are being taken by this organisation to convert the surface latrines into flush latrines in the district.

None of the towns of Baleshwar district is provided with underground sewerage system till 1985. It is proposed by the Government that the sewerage scheme of Baleshwar town will be taken up under United Nations Development Programme, Global Project, Orissa. The scheme is under preparation.

## **Slum Clearance and Improvement**

In two of the five urban agglomerations of the district, viz, Baleshwar and Bhadrak, Slum Clearance and Improvement Scheme has been put into operation. Under this scheme, in the Baleshwar municipality, as many as 37 tenements have been erected by the end of 1985 at an outlay of nearly Rs 1.92 lakhs, which provided accommodation for 37 persons. Under the improvement of the existing Urban Slum Schemes which is a Central Scheme, the grants received from 1984 to 1986 are Rs. 4.15 lakhs. The total expenditure till March 1986, are Rs. 2.65 lakhs. The number of beneficiaries under this scheme is 1,061.

In the Bhadrak Notified Area Council, the Slum Clearance Scheme was undertaken in 1964-65. Under the scheme a double storied slum building consisting of 12 slum quarters have been constructed at a cost of Rs. 78,950/-. No such grants or loans have been received by the Notified Area Council for this purpose during the years 1980 to 1985.

# APPENDIX I

## Vital Statistics

Year	Births			Deaths		
	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1976	29,732	1,563	31,295	14,262	675	14,937
1977	27,332	1,912	29,244	13,581	872	14,453
1978	26,197	2,080	28,277	13,255	849	14,104
1979	25,401	2,630	28,031	12,894	1,035	13,929
1980	25,838	3,142	28,980	10,450	1,114	11,564
1981	22,142	3,129	25,271	9,479	1,293	10,772
1982	23,178	3,690	26,868	10,664	1,361	12,025
1983	22,014	3,901	25,915	9,898	1,282	11,180
1984	22,680	3,915	26,595	6,846	1,524	8,370
1985	29,441	3,538	32,979	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

(Contd.)

Year	Infant Deaths			Birth rate per 1000 population		
	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
(1)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
1976	2,444	89	2,533	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1977	2,191	138	2,329	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1978	2,099	121	2,220	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1979	1,989	178	2,167	12.63	15.29	12.84
1980	1,512	180	1,692	12.63	17.40	13.02
1981	1,081	199	1,280	10.66	16.56	11.15
1982	1,282	260	1,542	10.97	18.74	11.64
1983	1,027	179	1,206	10.26	18.94	11.02
1984	1,215	238	1,453	10.41	18.21	11.11
1985	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	13.30	15.87	13.54

(Contd.)



Year	Death rate per 1000 population			Infant mortality rate per 1000 of live births		
	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
(1)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)
1976	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1977	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1978	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1979	6.41	6.02	6.38	78.30	67.68	77.31
1980	5.11	6.19	5.20	58.52	57.29	58.39
1981	4.56	6.84	4.75	48.80	63.60	50.65
1982	5.05	6.91	5.21	55.31	55.81	55.38
1983	4.61	6.22	4.76	46.65	45.89	45.54
1984	3.14	7.09	3.50	53.57	60.79	54.63
1985	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

(Concl'd.)

APPENDIX II  
Death from Chief Diseases for the period 1976—84

Year	Cholera			Small-pox		
(1)	Rural (2)	Urban (3)	Total (4)	Rural (5)	Urban (6)	Total (7)
1976	..	9	N. A.	9	N. A.	N. A.
1977	..	7	N. A.	7	N. A.	N. A.
1978	..	16	N. A.	16	N. A.	N. A.
1979	..	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.
1980	..	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.
1981	..	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.
1982	..	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.
1983	..	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.
1984	..	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.

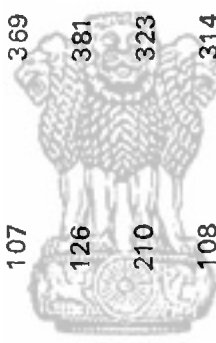
(Contd.)

(1)	Year	Fever			Dysentery and Diarrhoea		
		Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
		(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
1976	...	12,133	15	12,148	222	23	245
1977	..	11,972	69	12,041	197	73	270
1978	...	11,756	102	11,858	137	54	191
1979	...	11,316	113	11,429	145	78	223
1980	..	9,235	126	9,361	104	60	164
1981	..	5,558	253	5,811	74	60	134
1982	...	8,929	108	9,037	176	71	247
1983	..	11	31	42	172	82	254
1984	...	137	81	218	378	102	480

(Contd.)

Year	Respiratory			Injuries			
	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	
(1)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	
1976	..	33	115	148	449	13	462
1977	..	54	53	107	369	58	427
1978	..	81	45	126	381	51	432
1979	..	85	125	210	323	62	385
1980	..	61	47	108	314	61	375
1981	..	312	110	422	282	86	368
1982	..	98	60	158	322	43	365
1983	..	13	16	29	311	81	392
1984	..	120	40	160	267	129	396

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(Contd.)

(Contd.)

Year	Other causes			All causes			
	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	
(1)	(20)	(21)	(22)	(23)	(24)	(25)	
1976	..	1,416	509	1,925	14,262	675	14,937
1977	..	982	619	1,601	13,581	872	14,453
1978	..	884	597	1,481	13,255	849	14,104
1979	..	1,025	657	1,682	12,894	1,035	13,929
1980	..	736	820	1,556	10,450	1,114	11,564
1981	..	3,253	784	4,037	9,472	1,293	10,765
1982	..	1,139	1,079	2,218	10,664	1,361	12,025
1983	..	9,688	775	10,463	9,898	1,282	11,180
1984	..	6,494	622	7,116	6,846	1,524	8,370

(Contd.)

(Contd.,)

APPENDIX III  
Number of patients of different diseases treated / died in the Hospitals/  
Dispensaries / Primary Health Centres

Year	Malaria			Dysentery		
	Outdoor (1)	Indoor (2)	Death (3)	Outdoor (4)	Indoor (5)	Death (6)
1980	..	41,720	387	7	182,084	914
1981	..	47,853	362	7	189,202	931
1982	..	41,003	438	8	100,711	1,035
1983-84	..	53,362	261	3	404,556	1,511
1984-85	..	29,724	261	2	491,297	3,154
1980	..	10,221	794	36	..	..
1981	..	10,928	870	28	..	..
1982	..	9,458	877	43	..	..
1983-84	..	11,032	849	27	..	..
1984-85	..	8,228	942	32	..	..

(Contd.)

Year	Filariæ			Cholera		
	Outdoor	Indoor	Death	Outdoor	Indoor	Death
(1)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)
1980	..	56,597	240	..	3	..
1981	..	49,064	196	..	1	1
1982	..	53,299	201	..	..	..
1983-84	..	52,864	153	..	..	..
1984-85	..	58,982	238	..	..	..

Year	Small-pox			T. B.		
	Outdoor	Indoor	Death	Outdoor	Indoor	Death
(1)	(20)	(21)	(22)	(23)	(24)	(25)
1980	..	..	..	5,555	404	19
1981	..	..	..	2,248	515	45
1982	..	..	..	1,930	531	38
1983	..	..	..	865	244	15
1984-85	..	..	..	2,861	529	47

(Contd.)

Year (1)	Tetanus			Cancer		
	Outdoor (26)	Indoor (27)	Death (28)	Outdoor (29)	Indoor (30)	Death (31)
1980	..	253	160	42	53	28
1981	..	345	201	62	438	64
1982	..	294	186	64	300	32
1983	..	227	176	39	240	18
1984	..	168	150	39	195	42

Year (1)	Heart Disease			Other causes		
	Outdoor (32)	Indoor (33)	Death (34)	Outdoor (35)	Indoor (36)	Death (37)
1980	..	2,221	700	85	25,41,568	25,772
1981	..	2,034	603	106	26,24,425	26,751
1982	..	2,240	648	111	27,17,562	30,233
1983	..	5,406	683	145	29,13,161	31,220
1984	..	4,104	523	125	31,25,800	33,250

(Contd.)



## APPENDIX IV

## Name, Location, Year of Establishment, etc., of the Medical Institutions of the district

Name and Location	Year of Establish- ment	Number of		Number of Beds		
		Doctors	Pharma- cists	Nurses	Male	Female Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7) (8)
<b>Hospitals</b>						
District Headquarters Hospital, Baleshwar	1921	33	6	26	76	70 146
Subdivisional Hospital, Bhadrak	1948	8	3	4	30	20 50
Subdivisional Hospital, Nilagiri	1948	7	3	4	20	20 40
Government Hospital, Soro	1969	3	1	3	6	4 10
Government G. K. Bhattar Hospital, Jaleshwar	1979	2	1	3	10	10 20
Government Hospital, Khantapara	1959	1	1	1	5	5 10
Government Hospital, Puruna Bazar, Bhadrak	1959	2	1	1	5	5 10
Government Hospital, Bethipur	1973	1	1	1	2	2 4
Government Sunhat Maternity Hospital, Baleshwar	1959	2	1	1	..	10 10

(Contd.)

## APPENDIX IV—(contd.)

Name and Location (1)	Year of Establish- ment (2)	Number of			Number of Beds		
		Doctors (3)	Pharma- cists (4)	Nurses (5)	Male (6)	Female (7)	Total (8)
<b>Dispensaries</b>							
Government Dispensary, Ayodhya	1962	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Asurati	1965	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Bansada	1965	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Bant	1959	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Baliapal	1965	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Balikhand	1967	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Bishnupur	1966	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Bagudi	1970	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Dhusuri	1953	1	..	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Dungura	1965	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Deula	1956	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Ghanteswar	1959	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Irda	1959	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Eram	1959	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Jamalpur	1959	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Jaleshwar	1959	1	1	..	..	..	..

## APPENDIX IV—(Contd.)

Name and Location	Year of Establish- ment	Number of			Number of Beds		
		Doctors	Pharma- cists	Nurses	Male	Female	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Government Dispensary, Kakhada	.. 1962	1	1	..	—	..	..
Government Dispensary, Khuard	— 1965	1	1	—	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Nangaleswar	.. 1965	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Manjur	.. 1965	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Manjuri Road	... 1959	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Naikandihi	.. 1959	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Nampo	.. 1962	1	1	1	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Olamara	.. 1947	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Oupada	.. 1947	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Palsia	.. 1959	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Santoshpur	.. 1965	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Singla	.. 1959	1	1	..	..	..	..
Government Dispensary, Bhograi	.. 1959	1	..	..	..	..	..
Gopabandhu Dispensary, Nayabazar, Baleshwar	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
E. S. I. Dispensary, Baleshwar	.. 1979	1	1	1	..	..	..
<b>Primary Health Centre</b>							
Anantapur P. H. C.	... 1962	2	1	..	4	2	6

Agarpada P. H. C.	...	1953	2	1	..	4	2	6
Berhampur P. H. C.	..	1963	2	1	..	4	2	6
Bhandaripokhari P. H. C.	..	1962	2	1	..	4	2	5
Basta P. H. C.	..	1962	2	1	..	4	2	6
Barapada P. H. C.	..	1965	2	1	..	4	2	6
Basudebpur P. H. C.	..	1962	2	1	..	4	2	5
Chandbali P. H. C.	..	1962	2	1	..	6	4	10
Dhamnagar P. H. C.	..	1962	2	1	..	4	2	6
Gopalpur P. H. C.	..	1965	2	1	..	4	2	6
Hatigarh P. H. C.	..	1965	2	1	..	..	..	..
Iswarpur P. H. C.	..	1965	2	1	..	4	2	6
Jaleshwarpur P. H. C.	..	1965	2	1	..	4	2	6
Khaira P. H. C.	..	1962	2	1	..	4	2	6
Pratappur P. H. C.	..	1965	2	1	..	..	..	..
Remuna P. H. C.	..	1960	2	1	..	4	2	6
Rupsa P. H. C.	..	1962	2	1	..	4	2	6
Similia P. H. C.	..	1969	2	1	..	4	2	6
Tihiri P. H. C.	..	1953	2	1	..	4	2	6
<b>Medical Aid Centre</b>								
Betada M. A. C.	..	1975	1	1	..	..	..	..
Dandapalsa M. A. C.	..	1969	1	1	..	..	..	..
Dahamunda M. A. C.	..	1970	1	1	..	..	..	..

## APPENDIX IV—(Concl'd)

Name and Location	Year of Establish- ment	Number of			Number of Beds		
		Doctors	Pharma- cists	Nurses	Male	Female	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Khirkona M. A. C.	1975	1	1	..	..	..	..
Kasafal M. A. C.	1975	1	1	..	..	..	..
Pirhat M. A. C.	1970	1	1	..	..	..	..
Saradhapur M. A. C.	1974	1	1	..	..	..	..
Sikharpur M. A. C.	1974	1	1	..	..	..	..
Srirampur Road M. A. C.	1970	..	1	..	..	..	..
Sabrang M. A. C.	1975	..	1	..	..	..	..
Pakhar First Aid Centre	1959	1	1	..	..	..	..
<b>Subsidiary Health Centres</b>							
Paschimbad Subsidiary Health Centre	1970	1	1	..	..	..	..
Aradi S. H. C.	1979	1	1	..	..	..	..
Salabani S. H. C.	1980	1	1	..	..	..	..
Kamarda S. H. C.	1980	..	1	..	..	..	..
Gududa S. H. C.	1980	..	1	..	..	..	..
Sajanagada S. H. C.	1982	1	..	..	..	..	..
Jagannathprasad S. H. C.	1982	1	..	..	..	..	..

Nadigan S. H. C.	1982	1	..	..	..	..	..
Bahanaga S. H. C.	1982	1	..	..	..	..	..
Guamal S. H. C.	1983	1	..	..	..	..	..
Chandaneswar S. H. C.	1984	1	..	..	..	..	..
Balipada S. H. C.	1984	1	..	..	..	..	..
Banhlbindha S. H. C.	1984	1	..	..	..	..	..
Manipur S. H. C.	1984	1	..	..	..	..	..
Paunsakali S. H. C.	1984	1	..	..	..	..	..
Kenduapada S. H. C.	1984	1	..	..	..	..	..
Rasulpur S. H. C.	1984	1	..	..	..	..	..
Saud S. H. C.	1984	1	..	..	..	..	..
Ainpal S. H. C.	1984	1	..	..	..	..	..
Bodak S. H. C.	1984	1	..	..	..	..	..
Santaragadia S. H. C.	1984	1	..	..	..	..	..
Chumida S. H. C.	1984	1	..	..	..	..	..
Kansa Mini Health Centre	1980	1	1	..	..	..	..

**Other Institutions**

Police Hospital, Baleshwar	...	1901	1	1	1	24	...	24
District Jail Hospital, Baleshwar	...	1989	1	1	...	10	...	10
Railway Health Unit, Baleshwar	...	1962	1	1	...	...	...	...
Railway Health Unit, Bhadrak	..	...	1	1	...	...	...	...

**Private Institutions**

St. Vincent Hospital, Baleshwar	...	1978	1	...	1	15	15	30
Lady Liew's Maternity and Child Health Centre, Baleshwar.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gopabandhu Charitable Dispensary, Nayabazar, Baleshwar.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nursing Home, Baleshwar	..	..	..	..	..	..	...	1
Blood Bank, Baleshwar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
A. N. M. Training Centre, Baleshwar	..	...	..	..	..	..	1	..

## APPENDIX V

Name and location of Ayurvedic dispensaries in the district	Year of establishment
(1)	(2)
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Baleshwar ..	1972
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Brundabanpur ..	1972
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Ada ..	1955
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Ambulakuda ..	1976
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Aradi ..	1949
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Ertal ..	1975
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Phulwarkasba ..	1978
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Geltua ..	1972
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Gopinathpur ..	1967
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Haladipada ..	1972
Government Ayurvedic dispensary, Hatikhali ..	1979
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Kasati ..	1972
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Kochiakoili ..	1975
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Moto ..	1962
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Panchupali ..	1978
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Ramlila ..	1972
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Sahada ..	1971
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Sartha ..	1960
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Tudigadia ..	1959
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Odangi ..	1981
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Badapokhari ..	1981
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Anapal ..	1984
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Chudamani ..	1985
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Chatrapur ..	1985
Government Ayurvedic Dispensary, Berhampur ..	1985



## APPENDIX VI

Name and location of Homeopathic institutions in the district	Year of establishment
(1)	(2)
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Amarda Road	1972
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Arasa ..	1972
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Barunasingh	1968
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Baleshwar ..	1972
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Bodak ..	1978
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Betaligan ..	1972
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Bahanaga ..	1979
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Deula ..	1974
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Gud ..	1972
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Gadapokhari	1975
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Guamal ..	1971
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Gopalbindha	1979
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Kudei ..	1975
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Korakora ..	1965
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Kasabajayapur	1972
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Matiali ..	1972
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Netua ..	1974
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Nafrai ..	1979
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Panpara ..	1979
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Panisapada ..	1979
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Paliabindha ..	1971
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Rahania ..	1971
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Sudarsanpur	1972
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Sujansinghpur	1972
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Tadada ..	1972
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Brahmanigan	1980
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Charichokari	1980
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Jagannathpur	1980
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Purusottampur	1980
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Upardiha ..	1980
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Ramakrushnapur	1984
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Erada ..	1984
Government Homeopathic Dispansary, Mahisapata	1984
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Tunda ..	1985
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Olanga ..	1985
Government Homeopathic Dispensary, Tapandia ..	1985

## APPENDIX VII

**Year-wise achievements made under T. B. Control Programme during 1980 to June 1986**

Year	Case detection			Total	B. C. G.
	Sputum +ve	X-ray +ve	Ext. Pul.		Vaccination
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1980	330	476	186	992	67,240 (0—20 year)
1981	423	434	196	1 053	70,611 (0—20 year)
1982	431	558	193	1182	53,436 (0—20 year)
1983	580	1051	341	1972	46,010 (0—20 year)
1984	789	1063	417	2269	52,520 (0—20 year)
1985	909	1424	480	2813	39,129 (0—4 year)
1986 (Up to June)	600	958	267	1825	7,398 (0—1 year)

## **CHAPTER XVII**

### **OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES**

#### **Introduction**

In separate chapters elaborate accounts on education, medical and public health services, economic services, etc., which concern the entire population of the district, have been given. Only those which primarily relate to some sections of the people find mention in this chapter. They chiefly include labour welfare, prohibition, advancement of backward classes and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and charitable endowments.

#### **LABOUR WELFARE**

The district is mainly an agricultural tract than an industrial one. The bulk of its labour force, therefore, constitutes cultivators and agricultural labourers. According to the Census of 1981, out of the total main workers, 326,805 were cultivators (52.97 per cent), 161,829 were agricultural labourers (26.23 per cent), 11,363 belonged to household industries (1.84 per cent) and 116,960 were other workers (18.96 per cent).

Industrially the district is not so well advanced. Government of India have declared it as a No Industry District (NID). There are Industrial Estates at Balেশwar and Bhadrak. The Chief industries in this district constitute a charge-chrome plant, a plastic industry and a tyre factory. The others are rice mills, saw mills, printing press, fishing industries, etc. The labourers engaged in agriculture, construction and maintenance work are spread over the entire district. The workers in urban areas engaged in various factories, corporations and commercial establishments are able to protect their interest through their organisational set-up such as, trade unions, associations, etc. The workers in rural areas are devoid of such facilities.

Most of the Central and the State Labour Acts and rules extend to this district. A list of such Acts is furnished in Appendix I of this chapter. These legislations mainly aim at securing the interests of the labourers and workers in different spheres of their activity, safeguarding their exploitation in different forms at the hands of their employers and maintaining peaceful, congenial and harmonious relationship between the employers and the employees in the industrial field. Proper implementation of these Acts chiefly devolves on the labour organizations and associations functioning in the district.

### Organisational set-up

The Assistant Labour Commissioner, with his headquarters at Baleshwar, is primarily responsible for the administration and execution of the various labour laws. He acts as the inspector under almost all the Labour Acts. He functions as the Conciliation Officer under the Industrial Disputes Act. He is assisted, besides other subordinate staff, by one Labour Officer posted at Bhadrak and one Assistant Labour Officer at Nilagiri. Besides, the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Orissa, Bhubaneswar enforces the provisions of the Employees Provident Fund Act, 1952 and the Rules framed thereunder.

### Settlement of Disputes

The labour disputes are settled mostly through conciliation. The District Labour Officer is declared as the Conciliation Officer under the Industrial Dispute Act of 1947. If conciliation fails, the matter is referred to the Industrial Tribunal and Labour Courts constituted under Industrial Disputes Act of 1947. The following table gives a statistical picture of the complaints number of disputes, strikes and lockouts during the period 1983--85.

Year	No. of complaints		No. of disputes		No. of Total man-days lost due to			
	reported	settled	reported	settled	Strike	Lock-out	Strike	Lock-out
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1983	237	192	32	8	1	Nil	1494	Nil
1984	217	301	32	9	13	2	18,545	1792
1985	203	237	68	20	8	Nil	4,136	Nil

### Trade Unions

The right to form union by the industrial workers is guaranteed under the Trade Union Act. The object behind such organisations is to effectively protect their interests. Up to 31st March, 1985 there were 58 Trade Unions in the district.

### **Recreational facilities for labourers**

In order to provide educational and recreational facilities to the workers and their family members, Labour Welfare Centres have been set up. There is one Labour Welfare Centre located at Chandbali. Two Reading Room-cum-Recreational Centres have been established, one at Baleshwar and another at Bhadrak.

### **Minimum Wages Act**

The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 came into force with effect from 15th March 1948. Though it is a Central Act, both the Central Government and the State Government are fixing/revising the minimum rate of wages in respect of the workers employed in different occupations included in the schedule of this Act. From time to time the Central Government and the State Government are making new additions to the existing scheduled employments to cover more workers employed in different types of employments. In the state sector, the District Labour Officer with his capacity as the inspector under various labour laws safeguards the interests of the labourers and ensures enforcement of the provisions of the said Act.

The change in the rate of minimum wages from time to time has been discussed in Chapter IX (Economic Trends).

### **Employees Insurance Scheme**

The Employees State Insurance Scheme enforced under the Employees State Insurance Act, 1948, envisages social security to the industrial workers in case of sickness, disablement, death, maternity, etc. The operation of the scheme was extended to the district with effect from 2nd September 1979 under which the insured persons as well as their family members get full medical benefit. Two dispensaries under this scheme have been opened, one at Srikantapur and another at Nayabazar of Baleshwar town for direct payment of cash benefit to the insured persons.

### **Employment Service**

The Employment Exchange office provides information to the employer and the employment seekers for employment in various establishments. It also renders vocational guidance to the unemployed persons. It collects data of employment in private as well as in public sector undertakings. The District Employment Exchange office with the headquarters at Baleshwar and the Employment sub-office at Bhadrak, Nilagiri and Jaleshwar are the three organisations functioning in the district.

The total number of males and females in the Live Register and their placements during the period 1981—85 are indicated in the following table.

Year	Number in the Live Register			Placement		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1981	32,406	1,781	33,187	1,220	138	1,358
1982	31,496	1,900	33,396	717	12	729
1983	35,649	2,304	37,953	785	109	894
1984	35,040	2,825	37,865	539	114	653
1985	46,355	4,028	50,383	579	152	731

### Housing Scheme

No steps have been taken by the Government for construction of houses for industrial workers. However, some sheds have been constructed by a few rice mill owners to provide accommodation to their employees.

### Provident Fund

Provisions relating to the Provident Fund Act was introduced in the district since 1952, under which members are to contribute 6 to 8 per cent of their total wages to Provident Fund. A similar contribution is further required to be made by the members towards Family Pension Scheme which was introduced in the district from the 1st March 1971. Members are entitled to get back their contribution with interest. Ordinarily the beneficiaries under the scheme get back their contributions with interest after retirement. In case of retrenchment or accident they also get back their dues from the fund. Besides, for purchase of house site, construction of dwelling houses, marriage of their daughters or sons, etc., they are eligible to draw advances with stipulation of refunding the same in instalments. Benefit under Provident Fund Scheme is extended to the employees in the establishment and factories who are in service for more than six months. Till 31st December 1985, 8,340 employees out of 12,648 employees working in 184 establishments of the district enjoy the facility of Provident Fund.

### **Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes**

Till independence no specific policy was followed to uplift the socio-economic standard of the Adivasis and the weaker sections of the society by the Government. In 1946, the Provincial Government seems to have started some work in this direction on the recommendation of the Thakkar Committee appointed to find out ways and means for their welfare. After attainment of independence and with the Constitution of India coming into force, promotion of the educational and economic interests of the weaker section of the people particularly of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes became the primary responsibility of the state. According to the Census of 1971 the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheduled Castes constituted 18.51 per cent and 7.06 per cent respectively. According to 1981 Census, the percentages were 17.94 and 6.84 respectively.

In the present set-up, the District Welfare Officer is functioning at Baleshwar since January 1950 under the supervision and control of the District Collector. He is in charge of execution of various welfare schemes undertaken in the district from time to time for the benefit of S. Ts. and S. Cs. There are three Assistant District Welfare Officers functioning at the subdivisinal level under the direct supervision of the respective Subdivisional Officers. Besides, one Assistant District Welfare Officer is attached to the office of District Welfare Officer at the headquarters. In the Community Development Block there are twenty-one Welfare Extension Officers who work under the supervisor of the Block Development Officer one each for 19 Blocks and one for M. A. D. A. and one for I. T. D. A.

A number of schemes are in operation for the upliftment of these backward classes of people. Expenses incurred on account of the development programmes executed for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes people are shared by the State Government and the Government of India. The schemes for the welfare of backward classes may be broadly classified into (a) educational advancement, (b) economic uplift, (c) health and sanitation and (d) miscellaneous welfare measures. Emphasis is laid on the educational schemes as they make the backward communities more conscious of their rights and privileges in the society.

### **Educational Advancement**

Until 1950, very little efforts were made towards achieving any tangible progress in the field of education among the traditionally backward the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes people of the district. Various efforts have been made since then to help the spread of education among them.

In 1985-86, there were 46 Sevashrams, one Boys non-residential Ashram School at Dahapania (in Tihiri Block) and 3 High schools, i. e., one girls and two boys managed by the Harijan Tribal Welfare Department, for educational uplift of the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In the Sevashrams education is imparted upto Upper Primary standard. The students are provided with nationalised text books, garments, reading and writing materials, etc. In some Sevashrams provision for mid-day meals has also been made. In the Ashram schools the pupils are imparted basic training in different crafts like carpentry, smithy, weaving, tailoring and agriculture in addition to the general syllabus of Middle English school standard. During the academic session 1986, 4,594 pupils were studying in Sevashrams, 20 in Ashram schools and 633 in High English schools. Boarding charges as fixed by the Government of Orissa from time to time are paid to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes students. So far, 3 hostel buildings are functioning and 360 students have been accommodated. In addition to the boarding and lodging facilities, the inmates are supplied with beds and utensils in the hostels. A sum of Rs. 18,40,963 was spent on the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheduled Castes students during 1985-86 for pre-Matric scholarship and Rs. 8,31,505 for post-Matric scholarship.

Besides, the Education department annually incurs huge expenditure in providing stipends and lump grants to the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes students studying in Upper Primary, Middle English standard and High English schools other than the above specialised schools managed by the Harijan Tribal Welfare Department. In Primary schools they are also provided with reading and writing materials.

In 1985, 11 Scheduled Tribes students passed in the High School Certificate Examination. The Harijan and Tribal Welfare Department also provides stipends, etc., for their higher studies. During 1985-86, 2,290 Scheduled Castes and 251 Scheduled Tribes students were given Rs. 7,59,511 and Rs. 81,994 respectively as post-Matric scholarship for conducting higher studies. Provision for special coachings in Sanskrit, Mathematics and English is also made for them.

### **Economic uplift**

Beneficiary oriented poverty eradication programmes like Economic Rehabilitation of Rural Poor (E. R. R. P.) Integrated Rural Development (I. R. D.) National Rural Employment Programme (N. R. E. P.) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme



(R. L. E. G. P.) implemented in the district mainly aim at raising the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes above the poverty line. I. R. D. programme was introduced in 1978-79 in Bant, Tihiri, Dhamnagar, Bahanaga, Baleshwar, Remuna, Basudebpur, Bhandari-pokhari and Similia Blocks. In 1979-80, it was extended to Chandabli and in 1980-81 to Soro and Baliapal Blocks. Special programmes like S. F. D. A. and M. F. A. L. were introduced in the country during the 4th Plan period for economic development of small and marginal farmers which were later merged in I. R. D. programmes.

People belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are extremely poor for which they are unable to take recourse to law courts to vindicate their rights on landed property. To enable them to establish their rights, free legal aid scheme is being implemented though legal aid cells were formed in the district. To protect them from the exploitation of the landlords O. L. R. cases are being instituted. Government sanctioned an amount of Rs. 4,000 by which 12 Scheduled Castes people were benefited in 1985-86.

### **Miscellaneous Welfare Measures**

Miscellaneous welfare measures for improving the social status of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes people have been implemented. Inter-caste marriage is being encouraged and Government have spent Rs. 3,000 on this account during 1980-81. In the employment sphere their representation has been statutorily reserved. Financial and other concessions, such as, relaxation of age-limit, reduction in examination fees, etc., are also extended to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes candidates.

### **OLD AGE PENSION**

The Old Age Pension scheme was introduced in April, 1975. The beneficiaries under the Old Age Pension Rule, in the district were 5,780 during 1984-85. The amount of pension received by the beneficiaries was Rs. 25/-each per month. But the amount was increased to Rs. 40/-with effect from 1st June, 1980.

### **WIDOW PENSION**

Widow Pension scheme was introduced in 1964. The beneficiaries under Widow Pension scheme in the district were 267 till 1985.

### **FREEDOM FIGHTERS PENSION**

The Government of India have decided to give pension to the freedom fighters who dedicated their life for the noble cause of independence of their motherland during the Freedom Struggle.

of India. The following table shows the number of persons and the total amount incurred in the district from 1981 to 1985.

Year	Name of Treasury	Number of beneficiaries		Amount incurred (in rupees)	
		State	Central	State	Central
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1981	Baleshwar	412	336	4,88,187.95	15,46,197.46
1982	Baleshwar	328	335	5,66,006.00	15,41,334.47
1983	Baleshwar	317	322	5,02,000.65	14,39,502.03
1984	Baleshwar	306	266	5,43,095.20	17,16,406.15
1985	Baleshwar	374	335	8,93,166.18	18,99,172.05

#### PROHIBITION

Prohibition was first introduced in the State in respect of opium in the district of Baleshwar in 1938 as opium consumption was the highest there. After Independence, to further prohibit the consumption of opium, the consumption quota was reduced at the rate of 10 per cent annually with an aim to achieving the total prohibition of opium in a period of 10 years. Opium was completely prohibited from 1st April 1959 and opium shops were abolished. With regard to prohibition of liquor, Tari and Pachwai, it was first introduced in six police stations of Baleshwar district and some areas of Cuttack and Puri districts during 1947-48. Then it was gradually extended to other areas of the district and the entire Baleshwar district excepting the ex-State of Nilagiri was declared dry during 1955-56. From 1st April, 1956 prohibition was extended to the ex-State area attached to Baleshwar.

According to Opium De-addiction Scheme, medicinal opium, processed in the Opium Processing Centre at Cuttack, is to supply to the registered addicts in tablet form (1 gram each) of opium, at Re. 1/- per gram according to the quota fixed by the Chief District Medical Officer depending on the condition of the addict. The medicinal opium is sold to the addicts through the Medical Officer as well as from the departmental sales Centres. The registered addicts can possess opium to such limits as is fixed for them by the Chief Medical Officer. The use of liquor, Tari and Pachwai was at the outset prohibited in Bhadrak subdivision. Gradually other areas were brought under prohibition and by the end of 1954-55 the entire district was covered. This arrangement lasted till 31st March 1968, after which the outstill system of supply of liquor was introduced in the district. Thereafter country spirit system (distillery system) was introduced with effect from 1st April 1978 and this system is continuing since then. In Orissa

partial prohibition has been in vogue from time to time through restriction of opening of number of retail shops, prescription of limit of possession, tightening of enforcement machinery, etc. In accordance with the national policy on prohibition, many country liquor shops were closed during the year 1978-79 and 1979-80. The State Government, however, decided not to close any more shops further as there was no common policy on prohibition in the entire country as the neighbouring states did not close their shops in the border areas. Therefore, new liquor shops were allowed to be opened in places having genuine demands for country liquor.

Prohibition policy was not a success as it was enforced not under any special enactment whereby possible infringement could have been effectively checked but under the Excise Act, which mainly aimed at collection of revenue. Possession of intoxicants and not drinking itself was made an offence. Hence, the man caught for being heavily drunk is not treated as an offender. Lack of follow-up action and mobilisation of public opinion against the use of intoxicants are also partially responsible for its failure.

The Collector of Baleshwar under the supervision of Excise Commissioner, is the chief executive head in the administration of the Excise Acts in the district. He is assisted by the Additional District Magistrate and the Superintendent of Excise. The Superintendent of Excise, under the supervision and control of the above functionaries, is directly responsible for the smooth and efficient management of the department. He is assisted by Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, Assistant Sub-Inspectors and Excise Constables in addition to ministerial and other staff. The responsibility of collection of excise revenue vests with the Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors. The powers and functions of the Collector, Additional District Magistrate and various other excise staff are specially embodied in the Orissa Excise Manual, Vol. III.

The Excise Acts in force in the district are, (1) The Bihar and Orissa Excise Act, 1915, (2) The Indian Opium Act, 1878, (3) The Dangerous Drugs Act, 1930 and (4) The Medical and Toilet Preparations Act, 1955, as amended with effect from the 28th February 1981. These laws chiefly aim at regulating the manufacture, import, export, transport, possession and sale of excisable articles, and imposition and collection of revenue thereon. They also embody suitable penal provisions to deal with the offenders. Under various sections of the aforesaid Acts, the excise officers are empowered to detect offences. They can make house search with a warrant from competent authority where

necessary. The Orissa Excise Manual, Vol. I provides detailed procedures for detection, investigation and prosecution of crimes. The services of police are also requisitioned at the time of need for detection of cases.

Common intoxicants of the district are out-still liquor, medicinal opium, Ganja, Bhang, India-made foreign liquor and country liquor. The following figures show the year-wise consumption of opium, Ganja and Bhang in the district during 1980-81 to 1984-85.

Name of the intoxicant (1)	1980-81 Kg. (2)	1981-82 Kg. (3)
1. Opium ..	57.975	58.925
2. Ganja ..	1507.000	1952.650
3. Bhang ...	6.200	3.500

Name of the intoxicant (1)	1982-83 Kg. (4)	1983-84 Kg. (5)	1984-85 Kg. (6)
1. Opium ...	43.625	50.000	50.511
2. Ganja ..	1,489.250	1,099.250	898.250
3. Bhang —	3.500	3.000	1.750

No individual is allowed to possess more than the prescribed quantities of the aforesaid items. For manufacture and sale of out-still liquor, *Ganja*, *Bhang* and *Tari* licences are to be obtained. These licences called exclusive privilege to conduct retail sale of intoxicants by the Collector after obtaining approval from the Government through the Excise Commissioner. The table below shows the limit of possession of the excise goods by one person without licence,

- (i) Ganja—25 grams
- (ii) Bhang—120 grams
- (iii) India-made foreign liquor—1.5 bulk litre
- (iv) Beer—3 bulk litre
- (v) Rectified spirit—1.5 bulk litre
- (vi) Denatured spirit—4 bulk litre
- (vii) Tari—4 litres
- (viii) Pachwai—7 kg. undiluted, 18 kg. diluted

With the enforcement of prohibition possession, sale and manufacture of Tari, Pachwai, country spirit and foreign liquor were declared illegal without obtaining permit from the Collector. The foreign liquor shops were permitted to supply liquor to the permit holders who obtained it from the Collector on the recommendation of the Chief District Medical Officer, Baleshwar. In 1958 this procedure was replaced by a system of payment of prescribed fees.

Facility has been afforded to the local Adivasis for preparation of home-brewed Pachwai from rice or Ragi on festive occasions up to a limited quantity at a time and not for sale. The Secretary, Orissa Rajya Talgur Samabaya Sangha is permitted to issue licences to the tappers of Dhamnagar area for tapping date-palm and palmyra tree with a view to manufacturing *gur* from the sweet juice obtained from them. The juice, called *Neera*, is also well relished by the people.

Licences are ordinarily granted for one year for manufacturing and sale of the above items by the Collector. The Superintendent of Excise issues permits to the concerned licenses to import foreign liquor, beer, rectified spirit and denatured spirit. The importers are prohibited to obtain more than the stipulated quantity from different places of the state.

#### CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS

In 1986 there were 153 Charitable Endowments in Orissa out of which 26 were found in the Baleshwar district. These have been created by the donations and contributions rendered by benevolent persons. The Treasurer, Charitable Endowments, Orissa, under the Charitable Endowment Act, 1890 is the custodian of these properties. The income derived from the funds is disbursed according to the principles laid down by the Government with regard to the wishes of the donors. A brief account on these endowments is furnished below

#### **Fakir Mohan Prize or Medal Fund**

In 1920, Upendra Narayan Duttgupta, created a fund with rupees 500 in the name of the renowned Oriya writer Vyasakabi Fakir Mohan Senapati for encouraging Oriya literature among the students of Baleshwar Zilla School, for securing highest mark in Oriya literature in Matriculation examination. The District Magistrate and Collector, Baleshwar and the Headmaster of Baleshwar Zilla School, are its joint administrators. Till 1985, 66 students have been benefited by the fund.

### **Ramnath Das Prize or Medal Fund**

Ramnath Das, a retired Deputy Inspector of Schools, made a donation of Rs. 300 for the creation of Ramnath Das Prize or Medal Fund in 1927. The fund is meant for awarding annually a prize or medal to a student of Baleshwar Zilla School who secures first position in English essay writing. The District Magistrate and the Headmaster, Baleshwar Zilla School are the joint administrators. 39 students have been benefited by the fund till 1985.

### **Biswanath Parida Trust Fund**

The Biswanath Parida Trust Fund was created in 1927 by the donation made by Biswanath Parida for maintenance of the Charitable dispensary at Jamalpuri. The corpus of the fund is Rs. 3,800 and its administrator is the District Magistrate and Collector, Baleshwar.

### **Sir Stewart Bayley Medal Fund**

A sum of Rs. 600 was donated by Raja Baikuntha Nath De and Babu Satyendranath De of Baleshwar to Sir Stewart Bayley Medal Fund in 1934 for awarding medal annually to the student of Baleshwar Zilla School who stands first in Sanskrit in the Matriculation examination. The District Magistrate, Baleshwar is the administrator of this fund. 51 students have been benefited by this fund till 1985.

### **The Jagannath Asha Trust Fund**

The Jagannath Asha Trust Fund was created after the name of the donor in 1934 with a donation of Rs. 2,300. The District Magistrate of Baleshwar and the Headmaster of Baleshwar Zilla school are the joint administrators of the fund. The beneficiaries of this Trust are the students of Tambuli caste. Annually two free studentships are awarded to two Tambuli caste boys reading in any of the four highest classes of the Baleshwar Zilla School. 102 students have been benefited till 1985.

### **Raja Shyamananda De Educational Endowment Fund**

The Raja Shyamananda De Educational Endowment fund was created in 1934 with donation of Rs. 6,000 by Raja Shyamananda De, an ex-zamindar of Baleshwar. The District Magistrate, Baleshwar is the administrator of the fund. The interest accrued on the amount is contributed annually to the Bhadrak High English school, Bhadrak. Every year one student is benefited by this fund.

### **Bhuban Mohini Devi Prize Fund**

Bhuban Mohini Devi Prize Fund was created for encouraging learning of Mathematics among the students of Baleshwar Zilla School by awarding books to a student who stands first in Mathematics in the

annual Matriculation examination. Kishore Mohan Mukherjee contributed Rs. 400 in 1934 for this purpose. The District Magistrate, Baleshwar is the administrator of this fund. 51 students have been benefited by the fund till 1985.

### **Mrs. Smith Prize Fund**

Babu Satyendranath De of Baleshwar, contributed a sum of Rs. 600 for the creation of Mrs. Smith Prize Fund in 1934 for the purpose of awarding a medal in each year to the girl who stands first in the district in the Middle English School Certificate Examination. 51 students have been benefited by the fund till 1985.

### **The Raja Rajendralala Mitra's Sports Prize and Pandit Ishwar Chandra Bidya Sagar Scholarship Fund**

In 1934, a sum of Rs. 1,400 was donated by Satyendranath De of Baleshwar, for the creation of Raja Rajendralala Mitra's Sports Prize which is meant for awarding prizes to the competitors from among the Hindu boys in the annual sports, from the schools in the town of Baleshwar and for giving scholarship to a poor Hindu boy from among the schools of the district who fails to obtain government scholarship at the Middle English School Certificate Examination. The District Magistrate, Baleshwar is the administrator of this fund. 102 beneficiaries have been benefited by the fund till 1985.

### **The B. De Fund**

A leading gentleman of Baleshwar, donated a sum of Rs. 2,900 in 1934 for the creation of the B. De Fund for awarding scholarship of Rs. 4 per month for four years to a student who stands first in the Middle English School Certificate Examination from any school in the district of Baleshwar and for scholarship of Rs. 4 per month to the student of any school in the said district who secures next highest place in the said examination. The District Magistrate and Collector, Baleshwar is the administrator of this fund. 26 students have been benefited by the fund till 1985.

### **Srimati Sukhoda Dasi Reward Fund towards the Dehruda Tol**

A sum of Rs. 50 is being awarded annually to a student who successfully passes Acharya Examination in Sanskrit in any subject from Srimati Sukhoda Dasi Reward Fund which was created in 1934 by Babu Kailash Chandra Ray Mahasaya, an ex-Zamindar of Dehruda in Baleshwar district. The corpus of this fund is Rs. 3,400. The District Magistrate and Collector is the administrator of this fund. 51 beneficiaries have been benefited by the fund till 1985.

### **Shrimati Bhagabati Dasi Prize Fund**

Babu Kailash Chandra Ray Mahasaya, an ex-Zamindar of Dehruda, created in 1935 the Shrimati Bhagabati Dasi Prize Fund with contribution of Rs. 1,400 for awarding an annual stipend of Rs. 40 to a student securing highest place in Acharya examination in Sanskrit in Orissa. 51 students have been benefited by this fund till 1985.

### **Kailash Chandra Ray Mahasaya's Tol Fund**

Babu Kailash Chandra Ray Mahasaya's Tol Fund was created in 1953 for engaging Pandit for the Tol at Baleshwar on a pay of Rs. 7 per month and for repairing of the Tol house from time to time. The corpus of this fund is Rs. 2,900. The Chairman of Baleshwar Municipality is its administrator. 33 students were benefited by the fund till 1969. Since then the fund is not operating.

### **The Itpal Primary School Fund**

Pandit Gobinda Chandra Mohapatra, Assistant Dewan of the ex-state of Mayurbhanj donated a sum of Rs. 1,600 in 1935 for the creation of the Itpal Primary School Fund for awarding scholarship of Rs. 2 per month tenable for two years to an Oriya student of Itpal Primary school in Bhadrak subdivision who has shown proficiency in Oriya in order to enable him to continue his studies for two years further in Upper Primary class. The Chairman of Baleshwar Municipality is the administrator of this fund. 33 students have been benefited by the fund till 1969. Since then the fund is not operating.

### **The Abdullah Fund**

The Abdullah Fund was created in 1935 by Maulavi Abdus Solehan Khan of Cuttack with the object of awarding two scholarships to two poor meritorious Muslim boys studying in any of the four highest classes of the Narayan Chandra Middle English school at Bhadrak. The corpus of the fund is Rs. 1,000/-. The District Magistrate is administrator of the fund. 100 students have been benefited by the fund till 1985.

### **The Tute Muhammadan Educational Fund**

The Tute Muhammadan Educational Fund was created in 1935 with the donation of Rs. 5, 400/- for awarding scholarship for pursuing studies for four years to the Muslim pupils of the district who pass Middle School Certificate Examination. The District Magistrate and Collector, Baleshwar is the administrator of this fund.

### **Babu Sristidhar Roy Mahasaya Water-supply Fund**

The Babu Sristidhar Roy Mahasaya Water-supply Fund was created in 1906 by Babu Kailash Chandra Roy Mahasaya. The corpus of this fund is Rs. 3,100/-. The object behind this fund is to improve



the supply of drinking water for the public use in the district. The District Magistrate and Collector, Baleshwar is the administrator of the fund.

### **Dasarathi Scholarship Fund**

The Dasarathi Scholarship Fund was created in 1952 by Bansidhar Mohanty with a donation of Rs. 1,800/-for awarding scholarship of Rs. 4/-per month for classes VIII and IX and Rs. 5/-for classes X and XI to a deserving student of Bagurai High English school, Baleshwar. The District Magistrate and Collector, Baleshwar is the administrator of this fund. 9 students have been benefited by the fund till 1985.

### **Radhakrishna Scholarship Fund**

The Radhakrishna Scholarship Fund was created by Bansidhar Mohanty who donated a sum of Rs. 1,800/-in 1952. This fund is meant for awarding a scholarship of Rs. 4/-for class VIII and Class IX and Rs. 5/-for class X and XI to a deserving student of Bhadrak High English school. The District Magistrate and Collector, Baleshwar is the administrator of this fund. 9 students have been benefited till 1985 by this fund.

### **Saudamini Prize Fund**

The Saudamini Prize Fund was created by Miss N. Naik, lady principal, Sailabala Women's College, Cuttack, with a donation of Rs. 1,100/-in 1954. This fund is meant for awarding a prize to a student of fourth year class of the Fakir Mohan College, Baleshwar, who secures highest place in the 3rd year Annual Class Examination. The District Magistrate and Collector, Baleshwar, is the administrator of this fund. 31 beneficiaries have been benefited till 1985.

### **Muslim Trust Fund**

The Muslim Trust Fund was created in 1957 with a donation of Rs.1,000/-. The purpose of this fund is to award a prize to a deserving student of Bhadrak College. The fund is administered by the District Magistrate and Collector, Baleshwar. 29 students have been benefited by the fund till 1985.

### **Santi Silver Medal Fund**

The Santi Silver Medal Fund was created with a corpus of Rs. 300/- in 1957. The purpose of this fund is to award a silver medal to a student who stands first in the Prathama Examination of Orissa Association of Sanskrit Learning and Culture of Baleshwar district. The District Magistrate and Collector, Baleshwar is the administrator of this fund. 28 students have been benefited by the fund till 1985.

**Ranu Roy Smruti Trust Fund**

The Ranu Roy Trust Fund was created in 1968 with a donation of Rs. 1,700/-. This Trust Fund aims at awarding a scholarship to a girl student who secures highest mark in Bengali or Domestic Science in the district. The Inspector of Schools, Baleshwar is the administrator of the fund. 18 students have been benefited by the fund till 1985.

**Dehurda Mahasaya Upendra Chandra Award Fund**

The Dehurda Mahasaya Upendra Chandra Award Fund was created in 1968. The Inspector of Schools, Baleshwar, is its administrator. The income of this fund is utilized in awarding to a student of Jaleshwar High English school who secure highest mark in aggregate in the High School Certificate Examination. 17 students have been benefited by the fund till 1985.

**Sarajubala Smarani Fund**

The Sarajubala Smarani Fund was created with a corpus of Rs. 1,000 in 1968. The Inspector of Schools, Baleshwar, is the administrator of this fund. The income of this is utilized in awarding a scholarship to a poor student who passed the High School Certificate Examination from Jaleshwar High English school. 17 beneficiaries have been benefited by this fund till 1985.

**Baleshwar Poor students Educational Fund by B. Barjorji**

Baleshwar Poor Student Educational Fund was created with a donation of Rs. 7,000/- in 1967. The Collector, Baleshwar, is its administrator. The aim of this fund is to give help to needy and deserving students of the district.

**APPENDIX I**

1. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947
2. Orissa Industrial Dispute Rules, 1959
3. Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946
4. The Orissa Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Rules, 1947
5. The Trade Union Act, 1926
6. The Orissa Trade Union Regulations, 1941
7. The Minimum Wages Act, 1948
8. The Orissa Minimum Wages Rules, 1954
9. The Orissa Shops and Commercial Establishment Act, 1956
10. The Orissa Shops and Commercial Establishment Rules, 1958
11. The Payment of Bonus Act, 1965
12. The Employment of Children Act, 1938
13. The Orissa P. W. D./Electricity Department Contractors Labour Regulations
14. The Payment of Wages Act, 1936
15. The Payment of Wages Rules, 1936
16. The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961
17. The Orissa Maternity Benefit Rules, 1966
18. The Working Journalists (Condition of Services and Miscellaneous provisions) Act, 1955.
19. The Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961
20. The Motor Transport Workers Rules, 1966
21. The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923
22. The Workers' Compensation Rules, 1924
23. Bidi and Cigar Workers (Condition of Employment) Act, 1966
24. The Orissa Bidi and Cigar Workers (Condition and Employment) Rules, 1969.
25. The Orissa Industrial Housing Act, 1966
26. The Orissa Industrial Housing Rules, 1969

27. The Orissa Industrial Establishment (National and Festival) Holidays Act, 1969
28. The Orissa Industrial Establishment (National and Festival) Holidays Rules, 1972
29. The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970
30. The Orissa Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Rules, 1975
31. The Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972
32. The Orissa Payment of Gratuity Rules, 1974
33. The Orissa Welfare Officers (Recruitment and Condition of Service) Rules, 1970.
34. Orissa Dadan Labour (Central and Regulation) Act, 1975
35. Orissa Dadan Labour (Central and Regulation) Rules, 1975
36. Equal Remuneration Act, 1976
37. Sales Promotion Employees (Condition and Service) Act, 1976
38. Sales Promotion Employees (Condition and Service) Rules, 1976
39. The Inter-state Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Orissa Rules, 1980

## CHAPTER XVIII

### PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

#### REPRESENTATION OF THE DISTRICT IN THE STATE AND THE UNION LEGISLATURES

The district had a double-member parliamentary constituency, i.e., Baleshwar in the first General Election of 1951-52 and second General Election of 1957. In these two elections the district was represented by twelve and eleven members respectively in the State Legislature. For this purpose, the district was divided into two double and eight single-member assembly constituencies in the election of 1951-52 and two double and seven single-member constituencies in the 1957 election. In pursuance of clause (C) of Section 4 of the two-members constituencies (Abolition) Act, 1961 each of the former two-members constituencies in the state of Orissa was divided into single-member constituencies. Thus, Baleshwar had two single-member Parliamentary constituencies in the elections of 1962, 1967, 1971, 1977 and 1980. Likewise in 1961, 1967 and 1971 Assembly elections the district was divided into eleven single-member constituencies. As a result of the report of the Delimitation Commission of 1973, the number of Assembly constituencies was raised to twelve during the elections of 1974, 1977 and 1980 and there was no change in the number of Parliament seats. According to the last delimitation in 1973, the present territorial extents of the Parliamentary as well as the Assembly constituencies of this district are as follows\*.

Serial No.	Name of the consti- tuencies	Extent of Parliamentary/Assembly constituencies
(1)	(2)	(3)

#### A. PARLIAMENTARY CONSTI- TUENCIES

1	Baleshwar	Baisinga (ST), Khunta (ST), Bhograi, Jaleshwar, Basta, Baleshwar and Soro.
2	Bhadrak (SC)	Similia, Nilagiri, Bhandaripokhari (SC), Bhadrak, Dhamnagar, Chandbali (SC) and Basudebpur.

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\*The Orissa Gazette Extraordinary, No. 1781, Cuttack, Monday, December, 31, 1973.

Serial No.	Name of the consti- tuencies	Extent of Parliamentary/Assembly constituencies
(1)	(2)	(3)

**B. ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCIES**

- |    |                 |   |
|----|-----------------|---|
| 1. | Baisinga (ST) * | .. Baisinga police-station, Muruda police-station (excluding part Kohi, part Chadheigan, Nuhajhalia, Palasmundali, Gholmuhan, Chitrada, Muruda, Barkand, and Godigan Grama Panchayat) and Badasahi, Durgapur, Patisari, Kendudiha, and part Chandanpur Grama Panchayats in Badsahi police-station in Baripada sub-division. |
| 2. | Khunta (ST)     | .. Badsahi police-station (excluding Badsahi, Durgapur, Patisari, Kendudiha and part Chandanpur Grama Panchayats) and Betnoti, Dahikoti and Purinda Grama Panchayat in Betnoti police-station in Baripada subdivision; and Khunta police-station in Kaptipada sub-division.   |
| 3. | Bhograi         | .. Bhograi police-station and Nampo and Paschimbad Grama Pachayats in Baleshwar police-station in Baleshwar sub-division.   |
| 4. | Jaleshwar       | .. Raibania and Baliapal police-stations and Jaleshwar police-station (excluding Nampo and Paschimbad Grama Panchayat) in Baleshwar sub-division.   |
| 5. | Basta           | .. Basta and Singla police-stations in Baleshwar sub-division.  |
| 6. | Baleshwar       | .. Baleshwar police-station and Sergar police-station in Baleshwar sub-division.  |

\*Baisinga and Khunta Assembly constituencies are in Mayurbhanj district.

Serial No.	Name of the constituencies	Extent of Parliamentary/Assembly constituencies
(1)	(2)	(3)
7. Soro	..	Soro police-station in Baleshwar subdivision.
8. Similia	..	Similia and Khaira police-stations in Baleshwar subdivision.
9. Nilagiri	..	Remuna police-station in Baleshwar subdivision and Nilagiri sub-division.
10. Bhandaripokhari (SC)	..	Bant and Bhandaripokhari police-stations and part Ganijanga, part Sendtira, Kenduapada and Kaupur Grama Panchayats in Bhadrak police-station in Bhadrak subdivision.
11. Bhadrak	..	Bhadrak police-station (excluding part Ganijanga, part Sendtira, Kaupur and Kenduapara Grama Panchayats) in Bhadrak subdivision.
12. Dhamnagar	..	Dhamnagar police-station and Chandbali police-station (excluding Motto, part Orasahi, Chandbali and Nalguda Grama Panchayats) in Bhadrak subdivision.
13. Chandbali (SC)	..	Tihiri police-station, Motto, part Orasahi, Chandbali and Nalguda Grama Panchayats in Chandbali police-station and Bansada police-station (excluding (Dosinga, Bansada and Panchutikiri) Grama Panchayats) in Bhadrak subdivision.
14. Basudebpur	..	Basudebpur police-station and Dosinga, Bansada and Panchutikiri Grama Panchayats in Bansada police-station in Bhadrak subdivision.

### Political Parties and Organisations

At different times, all-India parties like the Indian National Congress, the Swatantra Party, the Praja Socialist Party, the Bharatiya Jana Sangha, the Communist Party of India, the Communist Party of India (Marxist), the Bharatiya Lok Dal, the Janata Party and the state parties like Ganatantra Parishad, the Utkal Congress and the Jana Congress have been the main political parties to be active in this district. The Indian National Congress was divided into two groups following a conflict in the year 1969 and were known as Congress and Congress (Organisation). The Congress (R) further disintegrated in 1977 and some of its members joined the Janata Party. The Communist Party, an all-India party, split after the Chinese aggression in 1962 and the groups were designated as CPI and CPI (M). The Communist Party was not a significant force in Orissa at any time. Its split made things worse for them in Orissa. The Praja Socialist Party was a major political force in Orissa, especially in the coastal districts of Cuttack, Puri and Baleshwar. But the debacle of the party in 1971 elections and the socialistic actions of the Congress Party led by Indira Gandhi encouraged the P. S. P. leaders of Orissa to join with the latter and subsequently it merged with the Congress led by Indira Gandhi on the 27th May, 1972. The Bharatiya Jana Sangha has no sizeable influence in Orissa.

Among the regional parties the Ganatantra Parishad was formed with the association of some former rulers and tribal leaders of western Orissa. It merged with the Swatantra Party of C. Rajagopalachari subsequently. Other state parties like the Jana Congress and Utkal Congress were born out of reactions against the prominent leaders of the then Congress Party. The former was formed by the dissident leaders of Orissa Congress like Harekrushna Mahtab and Pabitra Mohan Pradhar on the 5th May, 1966 while the latter was formed by Biju Patnaik following his expulsion from Orissa Congress in 1969. It merged with the Congress (R) in 1971 and was revived in 1972. Subsequently it merged with the Bharatiya Lok Dal which merged with the Janata Party in 1977.

To face the elections to the Lok Sabha in 1977 there was immediate alignment of political forces in all parts of the country. In Orissa, the Bharatiya Lok Dal, the Socialist Party, the Congress (O), the Jana Sangh and the Congress for Democracy merged and the Janata Party was formed. The Janata Party disintegrated in the year 1979 and the factions were known as Lok Dal, Janata Party (JP), Bharatiya Janata Party, Democratic Socialist Party, etc.



In the General Elections to State Legislature, 1980, besides some Independent candidates, candidates belonging to the Indian National Congress headed by Indira Gandhi, Indian National Congress (U), Janata, Janata(S), Bharatiya Janata Party, CPI, CPI(M), All India Jharkhanda Party and Socialist Unit Centre of India entered the fray. In the election, Indian National Congress (I) won eight seats out of twelve seats in the district.

In the General Elections to Lok Sabha, 1984, two political parties, Indian National Congress and Janata, contested the election. In addition, Independent candidates were also in the field. Baleshwar and Bhadrak Parliamentary seats went in favour of Indian National Congress.

Seven political parties, viz., the Indian National Congress, the Bharatiya Janata Party, the Forward Block, the Janata Party, Communist Party of India, Communist Party of India (Marxists) and Lok Dal took part in the General Elections to State Legislature, 1985. Besides, Independent candidates also participated in the elections. In the election Indian National Congress captured all the twelve seats. The strength of various political parties in the district can be seen from the results of the elections conducted during the years 1952 to 1985, as discussed below :

### **First General Elections, 1952**

India achieved independence on the 15th August, 1947 after about two hundred years of foreign rule and the Constitution of India came into force on the 26th January, 1950. According to the provisions of Article 325 and 326 of the Constitution of India, every adult Indian citizen has the right to take part in the election. The First General Election was held in Orissa in January, 1952.

### **Lok Sabha (House of the People )**

For the First General Election, the district of Baleshwar had one double-member parliamentary constituency, i.e., Baleshwar of which one seat was reserved for the candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes. Polling was conducted for 21 days beginning from 3rd January to 25th January, 1952 and a total number of 607,958 valid votes were polled. The Indian National Congress, the Socialist Party and the Ganatantra Parishad, all the three political parties had set up two candidates each and both seats were won by the candidates of Indian National Congress.

Informations relating to total number of votes, votes polled, percentage, parties contested and the party won, etc., are given in the following table.

Name of the constituency	No. of seats	No. of candidates		No. of electors
		Total	Contested	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1 Balashwar	2	6	6	7,51,245

Total No. of votes	Total No. of valid votes polled	Percentage of Col. 8 to Col. 7	Parties contested	Votes polled by each party
(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
1502,490	(1) 6,07,958	40.46	INC	205,151
	(2) 3,03,979		INC	151,813
			Socialist	94,005
			Socialist	77,024
			Ganatantra	44,209
			Ganatantra	35,756

### Vidhan Sabha (Legislative Assembly)

The district was divided into ten constituencies for the First General Elections to the State Legislature. Of these, two constituencies, i.e., Nilagiri and Chandbali were double-member constituencies whereas Balashwar, Bhograi, Basta, Soro, Balashwar, Bhadrak, Bant and Dhamnagar each formed a single-member constituency. One seat each in the double-member constituencies of Nilagiri and Chandbali were reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates. For 12 seats there were altogether forty-two contestants. Besides 8 Independent candidates, the Indian National Congress, the Socialist, the Ganatantra Parishad and the Communist Party of India set up 12, 10, 7 and 5 candidates respectively.

The constituency-wise figures relating to the number of electors, total number of votes, total number of valid votes polled, percentage and the successful candidates are given below.

Sl. No.	Name of the constituency	No. of seats	No. of candidates	
			Total	Contested
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Jaleshwar	1	3	3
2	Bhograi	1	4	4
3	Basta	1	2	2
4	Soro	1	3	3
5	Baleshwar	1	5	4
6	Nilagiri	2	8	8
7	Bhadrak	1	4	3
8	Bant	1	3	3
9	Dhamnagar	1	4	4
10	Chandbali	2	11	8

No. of electors	Total No. of votes	Total No. of valid votes polled	Percent- age of Col. 8 to Col. 7	Successful candidates of Parties
(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
52,757	52,757	14,824	28.09	Congress
51,444	51,444	17,699	34.40	Independent
44,696	44,696	15,213	34.03	Congress
55,331	55,331	20,411	36.88	Congress
65,820	65,820	28,280	42.96	Congress
96,101	192,202	73,520	38.25	Both seats were won by Congress.
57,569	57,569	23,295	40.46	Congress
46,424	46,424	20,827	44.86	Congress
49,349	49,349	23,086	46.78	Congress
120,754	241,508	110,251	45.65	Both seats were won by Congress

It is revealed from the above table that out of 12 seats in this district eleven seats were captured by the candidates belonging to the Indian National Congress and one seat was won by an Independent candidate.

**Second General Elections, 1957 (Lok Sabha)**

The district was made a double-member Parliamentary constituency, i.e., Balashwar for the purpose of the Second General Elections of 1957. Like the previous elections, one seat of the constituency was reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates. In this election, political parties like the Indian National Congress, the Praja Socialist Party and the Ganatantra Parishad had set up their candidates and altogether 693,456 valid votes were polled. Out of the total votes only 42.31 per cent were exercised and both the seats were won by the candidates belonging to the Indian National Congress.

The following statement gives in detail the figures relating to number of electors, total valid votes polled, candidates contested, votes polled by them, etc.

Name of the constituency	No. of seats	No. of candidates		No. of electors
		Total	Contested	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Balashwar	2	6	6	8,19,485
Total votes	Total No. of valid votes polled with percentage	Parties contested	Votes polled by each candidate with percentage	Successful candidates of Parties
(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
16,38,970	6,93,456 (42.31)	Congress	1,58,978 (22.93)	Both seats were won by the Congress party.
		Congress	1,45,163 (20.93)	
		P. S. P.	124,795 (18.00)	
		P. S. P.	1,17,065 (16.88)	
		G. Parishad	86,974 (12.54)	
		G. Parishad	60,481 (8.72)	

**Vidhan Sabha**

The district was delimited into seven single-member and two double-member constituencies for the election of representatives to the State Legislature. In the double-member constituencies of Chandbali and Soro one seat each were reserved for the Scheduled Castes. For eleven seats there were altogether thirty contestants of whom eleven belonged to the Indian National Congress, six to Praja Socialist Party, five to Ganatantra Parishad and two to Communist Party of India. Apart from these, there were six Independent candidates also. In this election eight Congress, two P. S. P. and one Independent candidate were elected to the State Legislative Assembly.

The following table shows the figures relating to the number of electors, total votes, total valid votes polled with percentage, the candidates contested, etc., in the Second General Election.

Name of the constituency	No. of seats	No. of candidates	
		Total	Contested
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Dhamnagar ..	1	2	2
Chandbali ...	2	8	6
Bhadrak ...	1	2	2
Soro ...	2	5	4
Nilagiri ..	1	10	6
Baleshwar ..	1	2	2
Basta ..	1	3	3
Bhograi ..	1	5	3
Jaleshwar ...	1	4	2

Name of the consti- tuency	No. of electors	Total No. of votes	Total No. of valid votes polled with percentage	Successful candidates of the party
(1)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Dhamnagar	72,390	72,390	32,944 (45.50)	Congress
Chandbali	1,26,360	2,52,720	1,11,524 (44.12)	Both seats were won by Congress
Bhadrak	57,859	57,859	24,220 (41.86)	Independent
Soro	1,33,516	2,67,032	97,030 (36.33)	Both seats were won by Congress
Nilagiri	58,568	58,568	28,380 (48.45)	Congress
Baleshwar	51,113	51,113	25,014 (48.93)	Praja Socialist Party
Basta	51,209	51,209	22,430 (43.80)	Congress
Bhograi	52,162	52,162	26,815 (51.40)	Congress
Jaleshwar	55,349	55,349	28,649 (51.76)	Praja Socialist Party

From the above statement it is clearly observed that the Ganatantra Parishad had no hold in the district during this election.

### **Mid-term Elections to State Legislature, 1961**

As the Second General Elections were completed by the end of March, 1957, the Third General Elections would have in the normal course, been held in February or March, 1962. But consequent upon the promulgation of the President Rule, the State Legislative Assembly was dissolved with effect from the 25th February, 1961. On the 27th March, 1961 the Union Home Minister announced in the House of the People that elections would be held on about the 4th June, 1961. Never before General Elections have been organised in any state within such a short period. In pursuance of clause (c) of Section 4 of the Two-member Constituencies (Abolition) Act, 1961 each of the former two-member Assembly constituencies in the State of Orissa had been divided into two single-member constituencies. Accordingly the district of Baleshwar was delimited into 11 single-member constituencies, of which two, i.e., Chandbali and Similia were reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates. The mid-term election was held from the 2nd to the 8th June, 1961.

In this district polling was completed within four days. On the 2nd June, Basudebpur, Chandbali and Bhadrak; on the 4th June Dhamnager and Similia, on the 6th June Nilagiri, Baleshwar and Soro and on the 8th June Basta, Bhograi and Jaleshwar went to the polls. For the smooth conduct of elections 711 polling stations were arranged. There were altogether 39 contestants of whom eleven belonged to Congress, nine to Ganatantra Parishad, four to Communist, seven to Praja Socialist and the rest non-party or Independent candidates. The poll result shows six Congress, one Ganatantra Parishad, three Praja Socialist Party and one Independent candidate to have been elected.

The figures relating to number of electors, total votes polled with percentage, number of votes rejected and percentage, candidates contested, number of valid votes polled by each candidate and the successful candidates are given in the next pages.

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage	Parties contested	No. of valid votes polled by each party	Successful candidates of the party
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Dhamnagar	77,716	41,521 (53.43)	1,507 (3.63)	Congress	9,956	Congress
Basudeppur	66,545	38,000 (57.10)	1,791 (4.71)	G. Parishad	5,379	
				P. S. P.	4,128	
Chandbali (S. C.)	66,267	30,654 (46.25)	1,321 (4.31)	Independent	22,114	Congress
				Congress	14,095	
				G. Parishad	3,816	Congress
Bhadrak	60,296	25,774 (42.74)	906 (3.51)	Independent	6,079	
				Congress	14,461	
				Communist	4,977	
				Congress	9,908	Independent
				Independent	14,091	
				G. Parishad	869	

(Contd.)



Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage	Parties contested	No. of valid votes polled by each party	Successful candidates of the party
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Soro	64,451	28,830 (44.73)	1,128 (3.91)	Communist	6,488	Congress
				Independent	6,413	
				Congress	7,709	
				G. Parishad	1,601	
				P. S. P.	5,491	
Similia (S.C)	69,997	23,383 (33.40)	968 (4.14)	Congress	9,228	Congress
				P. S. P.	8,475	
				G. Parishad	4,712	
Nilagiri	64,348	34,695 (53.91)	1,622 (4.70)	Communist	9,570	Ganatantra
				G. Parishad	13,049	
				Congress	10,454	

(Contd.)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Baleshwar	59,588	24,323 (40.82)	928 (3.81)	P. S. P.	9,501	Congress
				Congress	11,511	
				G. Parishad	1,198	
				Communist	1,185	
Basta	57,896	25,114 (43.38)	943 (3.75)	Congress	10,409	P. S. P.
				G. Parishad	2,012	
				P. S. P.	11,750	
Bhograi	58,367	29,422 (50.41)	1,192 (4.05)	G. Parishad	512	P. S. P.
				Congress	10,855	
				P. S. P.	16,863	
Jaleshwar	65,952	27,519 (41.72)	1,005 (3.65)	G. Parishad	906	P. S. P.
				P. S. P.	14,054	
				Congress	11,077	
				Independent	477	

(Concl'd.)

### **Lok Sabha Elections, 1962**

For the General Elections of 1962 to the House of People, the district of Balashwar was divided into two single-member Parliamentary constituencies namely Balashwar and Bhadrak. Though the Assembly Elections of 1961 was completed within four days it took seven days for the elections to Lok Sabha.

In Bhadrak Parliamentary constituency there was a straight fight between the candidates belonging to Congress and Praja Socialist Party; whereas in Balashwar constituency it was a triangular contest among the candidates of Congress, P. S. P. and one Independent. The candidates belonging to Congress Party captured both the seats. In Bhadrak, the Congress got 36,893 votes whereas 30,596 votes went in favour of the P. S. P. candidate. In Balashwar, the Congress, the P. S. P. and the Independent candidates polled 87,250, 57,691 and 6,953 votes respectively.

### **Fourth General Elections, 1967**

Normally, elections to the State Legislature should have been held in 1966 as the Orissa Assembly was to continue up to the 20th August, 1966; but the Union Government postponed the elections. Parliament decided to extend the term of the State Legislative Assembly till the 1st March 1967 by enacting the Orissa Legislative Assembly (Extension of Duration) Act, 1966 so that the elections to the State Legislature could be held simultaneously with the country-wide elections.

The First General Elections were completed in 36 days whereas the polling days were reduced to 14 in the Second General Elections. The mid-term elections of 1961 took four days and polling for the 1962 Lok Sabha elections completed in seven days.

But the unique feature of the elections of 1967 is that polling for both the State Legislature and the House of People was completed in a single day, i.e., the 21st February 1967.

For this election the district was divided into eleven Assembly and two, Parliamentary constituencies. Of the Assembly seats, two, i.e., Similia and Chandbali and the Bhadrak Parliamentary constituency were reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates. Besides five Independents, candidates belonging to the Congress and Swatantra, Praja Socialist Party, Communist Party of India, Communist Party of India (Marxist) and Jana Congress, virtually a splinter group of the Congress, contested for the Assembly seats. Of the total electorate of 8,16,709 only 4,66,321 exercised their

franchise and elected four P. S. P., one Congress, one C. P. I. (M.), one Swatantra and four Jana Congress candidates. From the elections results it is noticed that during this election the Congress got only one seat as against the six it captured in the previous election. The most prominent feature of the Fourth General Elections is the anti-Congress swing, that dwindled the party's prestige not only in the state, but all over the country.

A detailed account regarding elections to State Legislative Assembly is given below:

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Bhograi ..	72,845	44,218 (60.70)	2,194 (4.96)
Jaleshwar ..	68,988	38,162 (55.31)	2,230 (5.84)

Name of the constituency	Name of the parties contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidates of parties
(1)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Bhograi ..	Independent	4,695	P.S.P.
	Congress	15,105	..
	P.S.P.	21,598	..
	Swatantra	626	..
Jaleshwar ..	P.S.P.	24,080	P.S.P.
	Congress	11,852	..

(Contd.)

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Basta ...	64,819	38,266 (59.83)	1,778 (4.64)
Baleshwar ..	62,500	35,451 (56.72)	1,701 (4.79)
Nilagiri ..	72,924	42,043 (57.65)	2,719 (6.46)
Soro ...	75,145	36,563 (49.56)	1,895 (5.18)
Similia (S.C.) ...	81,092	38,433 (47.39)	2,027 (5.27)

Name of the constituency	Name of the parties contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidates of the party
(1)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Basta ..	Swatantra Congress P.S.P Jana Congress	1,481 18,378 13,313 3,316	Congress
Baleshwar ..	Swatantra P.S.P. Congress	3,919 20,447 9,384	P. S. P.
Nilagiri ..	Swatantra Communist (M) Congress	8,969 18,438 11,917	C. P. I. (M)
Soro ..	Communist Congress Swatantra P.S.P.	7,433 10,251 15,931 1,053	Swatantra
Similia (S. C.) ..	P.S.P. Swatantra Congress	19,585 13,798 3,023	P. S. P.

(contd.)

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Bhadrak ..	73,085	38,924 (58.25)	1,993 (5.12)
Dhamnagar ..	88,425	54,719 (61.88)	2,459 (4.49)
Chandbali (S.C.) ..	74,695	44,895 (60.10)	3,126 (6.69)
Basudebpur ..	82,191	54,647 (66.48)	2,573 (4.70)

Name of the constituency	Name of the parties contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidates of the party
(1)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Bhadrak ..	Swatantra	1,898	Jana Congress
	Jana Congress	26,680	
	Congress	5,826	
	Independent	2,527	
Dhamnagar ..	Independent	3,691	Jana Congress
	Jana Congress	40,397	
	Congress	8,172	
Chandbali (S.C.) ..	Communist	5,137	Jana Congress
	Independent	1,346	
	Swatantra	3,543	
	Congress	7,276	
	Jana Congress	24,467	
Basudebpur ..	Congress	15,765	Jana Congress
	Jana Congress	36,309	

(Concl'd.)

**Lok Sabha**

As stated above, elections to the House of People were held simultaneously with the State Assembly. For the elections to the Lok Sabha, the district was divided into two Parliamentary constituencies as before, namely, Baleshwar and Bhadrak. Of these, Bhadrak seat was reserved for the Scheduled Castes. Besides one Independent candidate for Bhadrak, three all-India Parties, such as, Congress, Swatantra and Praja Socialist Party also contested. Altogether there were seven candidates in the fray. Out of the total electorate of 10,09,050 only 549,011 voters, i.e., 54.10 per cent exercised their franchise and elected one P. S.P. and one Independent from Baleshwar and Bhadrak seats respectively.

In the following table a detailed account of the Lok Sabha election is given.

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Baleshwar	461,493	2,38,787 (51.74)	11,590 (4.85)
Bhadrak (S.C.)	547,557	3,10,224 (56.65)	15,885 (5.12)

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Parties contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidate of parties
(5)	(6)	(7)
Congress	77,653	P. S. P.
Swatantra	36,521	
P. S. P.	113,022	
Congress	61,012	Independent
Independent	104,484	
Swatantra	83,387	
P. S. P.	45,361	

### Mid-term Elections, 1971

#### Vidhan Sabha

The State of Orissa, faced again a mid-term poll for the second time in 1971. This time elections both for the State Legislative Assembly as well as the House of People were held on the same day, i.e., the 5th March, 1971. Like the Fourth General Elections, the district of Baleshwar was divided into eleven Assembly constituencies. The number of Parliamentary seats were also unchanged. Of these, the Similia and Chandbali Assembly constituencies and the Bhadrak Parliamentary seat were reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates. In this election the number of contestants were almost double, i.e., 69 as against 38 in the previous election. Besides some Independents, all-India parties like the Indian National Congress (Ruling), Praja Socialist Party, Swatantra Party, Communist Party of India, Communist Party of India (Marxist), Bharatiya Jana Sangh and the Indian National Congress (Organisation) and the two state parties, i.e., the Utkal Congress and Jana Congress contested this election. Of the 69 candidates for Assembly seats, 10 belonged to I. N. C. (Ruling), 7 to P.S.P., 11 to Swatantra, 4 to C.P.I. (M), 4 to C. P. I., 3 to Bharatiya Jana Sangh, 5 to I. N. C. (O), 11 to Utkal Congress, 5 to Jana Congress and 9 Independents. The I. N. C. and the Utkal Congress captured four seats each while the P. S. P., the C. P. I. and the C. P. I. (M) were returned with one seat each. There were 1,074 polling stations with an average of 855 voters per booth. In this election 454 vehicles were used by the election machinery.

The number of electors, total votes polled, percentage of votes, number of rejected votes, percentage of rejection, the successful candidates, etc, are given in the following table.

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled	Percentage of votes Col. 3 to Col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Bhograi	84,446	53,928	63.86
Jaleshwar	82,578	47,347	57.33
Basta	74,227	46,453	62.58
Baleshwar	70,007	39,280	56.11
Nilagiri	79,478	43,446	54.66
Soro	84,110	48,402	57.54
Similia (S.C.)	89,778	43,320	48.25
Bhadrak	79,019	41,076	51.98
Dhamnagar	96,009	53,581	55.80
Chandbali (S.C.)	82,606	44,744	54.16
Basudebpur	90,170	54,662	60.62

(Contd.)



No. of votes rejected	Percentage of rejected votes Col. 5 to Col. 3	Successful candidates of parties
(5)	(6)	(7)
2,443	4.53	I. N. C. (R)
2,137	4.51	P. S. P.
2,258	4.84	Utkal Congress
2,835	7.22	I. N. C. (R)
2,337	5.37	C. P. I. (M)
3,033	6.26	Utkal Congress
3,156	7.28	C. P. I.
2,104	5.12	I. N. C. (R)
2,212	4.12	Utkal Congress
1,894	4.23	I. N. C. (R)
2,612	4.77	Utkal Congress

### Lok Sabha

In 1971, there was two Parliamentary constituencies, i.e., Baleshwar and Bhadrak of which the latter was reserved for the Scheduled Castes. In the mid-term poll five political parties, viz., Swatantra, Utkal Congress, Indian National Congress (R), P. S. P. and Congress (O) and one Independent candidate entered in the election contest.

Baleshwar Parliamentary constituency witnessed the poll among the candidates belonging to Swatantra, Utkal Congress, Indian National Congress (R) and Praja Socialist Party. Of the total 5,24,558 electors 2,72,407 voters, i.e., 51.93 per cent exercised their franchise and 11,850 votes, i.e., 4.35 per cent of the total votes polled were rejected.

In the Bhadrak (S.C.) Parliamentary constituency besides one Independent, the Indian National Congress (R), the Congress (O), the Swatantra and the Utkal Congress had set up their own candidates. Of the, 6,01,170 voters 3,29,173 adults, i.e., 54.74 per cent cast their votes and 13,902, i.e., 4.22 per cent of the votes polled were rejected.

Both the Parliamentary seats were captured by the candidates belonging to the Indian National Congress (R).

### By-election

Consequent upon the resignation of the Indian National Congress (R) candidate elected from Bhadrak Assembly constituency a by-election became necessary to fill-up the vacancy

and on 22nd September, 1971 by-election was held for Bhadrak. In this by-election besides one Independent candidate, the Indian National Congress and the Utkal Congress also set up their candidates. Out of the total electorate of 83,688 only 43,780, i.e., 52.31 per cent cast their votes and 1,601, i.e., 3.66 per cent votes were rejected. In this by-election the Indian National Congress (R) lost the seat to the Utkal Congress.

### **Mid-term Elections to State Legislature, 1974**

The Fifth General Elections to the State Legislative Assembly having been held in the year 1971, normally the Sixth General Elections would have been held in 1976. But the Orissa Legislative Assembly was dissolved on the 1st March 1973. The Election Commission of India decided to hold poll of the Assembly constituencies of Orissa on the 24th February, 1974 after the finalisation of delimitation of constituencies in the state.

As a result of the delimitation, the district of Baleshwar was added with a new Assembly constituency, i.e., Bhandaripokhari and the strength of Assembly seats of this district was raised from eleven to twelve.

Originally it was decided to complete the voting on the 24th February, 1974. But due to the strike by a section of the non-gazetted Government servants, the date of poll was staggered from one day to three days. Accordingly election for Bhograi, Dhamnagar and Chandbali was completed on the 22nd February, 1974. On 24th February voting was conducted for Jaleshwar, Soro, Bhandaripokhari and Basudebpur Assembly seats and Basta, Baleshwar, Similia, Nilagiri and Bhadrak Assembly seats went into polls on the 26th February, 1974. There were 9,88,797 voters in all and 1,255 polling stations were arranged with an average of 788 voters per polling station. In these elections, 314 vehicles including 20 private buses were used.

In this election, the district was divided into 12 Assembly constituencies, and Bhandaripokhari and Chandbali constituencies were declared as reserved constituencies for the Scheduled Castes. Besides 11 Independents, ten political parties had set up their candidates. Of them, the Indian National Congress and the Utkal Congress had eleven candidates each. The Socialist Party and the Jana Congress had five and eight candidates respectively. The Swatantra, C. P. I. and the C. P. I. (M) had set up two candidates each whereas Bharatiya Jana Sangh, Forward Block and Socialist Unit Centre had set up one candidate each.

The following table gives a detailed account in respect of the mid-term elections held in 1974.

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage	Candidates contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidate of the party
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Bhograi	83,139	57,962 (69.72)	2,053 (3.66)	I. N. C.	24,890	I. N. C.
Jaleshwar	—	90,914	2,350 (3.52)	Utkal Congress Socialist Socialist	20,565 10,454 25,510	  Socialist
				I. N. C.	21,263	
				Utkal Congress	9,937	
				Independent	7,433	
				Jana Congress	444	
Basta	—	76,424	1,514 (2.59)	I. N. C.	39,261	I. N. C.
				Utkal Congress	17,198	
				Jana Congress	465	

(Contd.)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Baleshwar	..	52,890 (61.86)	1,854 (3.50)	C. P. I.	12,620	C. P. I.
				I. N. C.	11,928	
				Socialist	11,092	
				Swatantra	7,471	
				Utkal Congress	3,988	
				Bharatiya Jana Sangha	2,690	
				Independent	833	
				Jana Congress	414	
Soro	..	55,250 (69.54)	2,514 (4.76)	I. N. C.	30,144	I. N. C.
				Swatantra	19,900	
				Socialist	1,001	
				Independent	908	
				C. P. I. (M)	783	
Similia	...	52,237 (68.25)	2,726 (5.22)	I. N. C.	25,690	I. N. C.
				Utkal Congress	20,469	
				Independent	2,571	
				Forward Block	781	

(Contd.)

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage	Candidates contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidate of the party
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Nilagiri	84,490	54,537 (64.54)	2,498 (4.58)	C. P. I. (M)	14,346	C.P.I.(M)
				Utkal Congress	14,297	
				I. N. C.	12,312	
				Independent	10,244	
				Jana Congress	840	
Bhandaripokhari (SC)	74,521	47,089 (63.19)	2,219 (4.71)	Utkal Congress	17,352	Utkal Congress
				C. P. I.	14,361	
				Socialist	1,549	
				Jana Congress	159	
				Independent	11,449	

(Contd.)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Bhadrak	..	48,204 (61.62)	1,906 (3.95)	I.N.C.	25,522	I.N.C.
				Utkal Congress	18,723	
				Socialist	1,476	
				Jana Congress	577	
Dhamnagar	..	53,135 (61.45)	2,375 (4.46)	Utkal Congress	21,795	Utkal Congress
				I. N. C.	21,082	
				Independent	7,885	
Chandbali (SC)	..	53,382 (58.13)	2,822 (5.28)	I.N.C.	27,461	I.N.C.
				Utkl Congress	19,587	
				Independent	3,104	
				Jana Congress	408	
Basudebpur	..	53,204 (65.41)	2,162 (4.06)	I.N.C.	26,603	I.N.C.
				Utkal Congress	23,945	
				Jana Congress	494	

(Concl.)

The above statement reveals that in the mid-term election of 1974 out of 12 seats, the Indian National Congress bagged seven seats while the Socialist Party, the Communist Party of India and the C.P.I. (M) captured one seat each. Two seats were won by the candidates of Utkal Congress.

### **Election cases**

The election of the Indian National Congress candidate to the State Legislature from Bhadrak Assembly constituency was declared void by the Honourable High Court of Orissa due to improper rejection of the nomination paper of the petitioner, Shri Ratnakar Mohanty.

An election petition by Shri Chittaranjan Sarangi was filed in the Orissa High Court against the election of the C.P.I.(M) candidate to the State Legislature from Nilagiri constituency and the election of the sitting C.P.I. (M) M.L.A. was set aside by the Honourable High Court and the candidate belonging to the Utkal Congress was declared elected.

### **Sixth General Elections to Lok Sabha, 1977**

After the proclamation of the Emergency in June, 1975, the duration of the Fifth Lok Sabha was extended by one year by the House of People (Extension of Duration) Act, 1976. This period was further extended for another year by the House of People (Extension of Duration) Amendment Act, 1976. Thus, normally, the term of the Fifth Lok Sabha was due to expire in March, 1978. However, the fifth Lok Sabha was dissolved on the 18th January, 1977 and soon after, the Election Commission of India called upon the people to elect their representatives afresh to the House of People as required under the Constitution of India.

There was no change in the number of Parliamentary constituencies of the district in this election and one seat, i.e., Bhadrak was reserved for the Scheduled Castes. Election was held on the 16th March, 1977. There were 700 polling stations including 17 temporary structures with an average number of 879 voters per booth. Besides five motor lunches, the election machinery used 596 vehicles. For two seats of this district there were five contestants fielded by three political parties. In Baleshwar constituency there was a triangular contest among the candidates belonging to C.P.I., Indian National Congress and Bharatiya Lok Dal; whereas, it was a straight contest between the Indian National Congress and the Bharatiya Lok Dal in Bhadrak seat. Both the seats were captured by Bharatiya Lok Dal.

A detailed account concerning the number of electors, total votes polled with percentage, number of votes rejected with percentage, candidates set up by different political parties, votes polled by them and successful candidates is given in the following table.

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Baleshwar ..	6,15,737	3,50,771 (56.97)	9,511 (2.71)
Bhadrak (S. C.) ..	6,14,684	3,36,054 (54.67)	9,677 (2.88)

Parties contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidates of the parties
(5)	(6)	(7)
C.P.I.	20,283	
I.N.C.	1,30,758	
B.L.D.	1,90,219	B.L.D.
I.N.C.	1,27,400	
B.L.D.	1,98,977	B.L.D.

In this election, out of 12,30,421 electorate, 6,86,825 or 55.82 per cent had exercised their franchise.

#### **Seventh General Elections to State Assembly, 1977**

The Sixth General Elections to the State Legislature was held in the year 1974. The Seventh General Elections to the State Assembly was due in the year 1979. But after the Lok Sabha Elections of March, 1977 things took a different turn. The Assembly was dissolved by the President under Article 356 of the Constitution of India with effect from the 30th April, 1977. The Election Commission of India decided to hold poll of the Assembly constituencies of the state in one day on the 10th June 1977.



The polling was held from 7.30 a. m. to 4.30 p. m. on that day. For this election there were 1,236 polling stations in the district. The election machinery used 295 vehicles, besides 14 government motor lunches. This time 5,26,841 (2,96,535 males and 2,30,306 females) voters exercised their franchise.

In the Assembly Elections of 1977, the district was divided into 12 constituencies. Besides 14 Independent candidates, four political parties of all-India status entered the fray. Of them the Janata Party and the Indian National Congress fielded 12 candidates each and the C.P.I. and C. P. I.(M.) had four and one candidate, respectively. The most prominent feature of this election was the anti-Congress wind blowing almost all over the country as a result of which the Janata Party got landslide victory and the district was no exception. In this district, all the 12 seats were captured by the Janata Party.

A statement showing the number of electors, total votes polled with percentage, total votes rejected with percentage, parties contested, votes polled by them and successful candidate is given below.

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Bhograi ..	90,995	51,450 (56.54)	615 (1.20)
Jaleshwar ..	98,590	48,150 (48.84)	727 (1.51)

Name of the constituency	Parties contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidate of the parties
(1)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Bhograi ..	INC	17,617	Janata
	Janata	31,586	
	Independent	1,632	
Jaleshwar ..	Janata	29,615	Janata
	INC	13,943	
	Independent	3,865	

(Contd.)

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Ba sta ..	81,612	50,823 (62.27)	820 (1.61)
Balashwar ..	96,141	42,577 (44.29)	743 (1.75)
Soro ..	83,662	37,470 (44.79)	685 (1.83)
Similia ..	80,865	37,994 (46.98)	810 (2.13)

Name of the constituency	Parties contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidates of the parties
(1)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Basta ..	INC	19,779	
	Janata	28,334	Janata
	Independent	1,890	
Balashwar ..	C.P.I.	10,509	Janata
	Janata	20,742	
	INC	8,965	
	Independent	1,618	
Soro ..	CP.I.	8,103	
	INC	4,762	
	Janata	23,920	Janata
Similia ..	Janata	14,514	Janata
	INC	9,935	
	Independent	12,735	

(Contd.)

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/percentage	No. of votes rejected/percentage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Nilagiri ..	91,781	42,116 (45.89)	967 (2.30)
Bhandaripokhari (S.C.) ..	78,617	37,572 (47.79)	693 (1.84)
Bhadrak ..	85,607	33,736 (39.41)	727 (2.15)
Dhamnagar ..	91,171	46,560 (51.07)	961 (2.06)
Chandbali (S.C.) ..	96,816	43,776 (45.22)	828 (1.89)
Basudebpur ..	90,182	54,617 (60.56)	1,232 (2.26)

Name of the constituency	Parties contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidates of the parties
(1)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Nilagiri ..	INC	6,277	
	C.P.I. (M)	14,928	
	Janata	17,246	Janata
	Independent	2,698	
Bhandaripokhari (S.C.)	Janata	20,683	Janata
	INC	9,340	
	C.P.I.	4,863	
	Independent	1,993	
Bhadrak	Janata	18,605	Janata
	INC	10,612	
	C.P.I.	2,589	
	Independent	1,203	
Dhamnagar ..	Janata	24,720	Janata
	INC	20,879	
Chandbali (S.C.) ..	Janata	26,493	Janata
	INC	16,455	
Basudebpur ..	Janata	28,646	Janata
	INC	24,739	

(Concl'd.)

From the above table it is revealed that there was a straight contest between two political parties in only three constituencies and in the remaining nine constituencies there was either triangular or multi-cornered contest. Another important feature was the percentage of rejection of votes. This time it was lower by 1.88 per cent than in the previous election which was 4.20 per cent of the votes cast.

### **Seventh General Elections to Lok Sabha, 1980**

The Sixth Lok Sabha Elections having been held in March, 1977, the elections to Seventh Lok Sabha was due to be held sometime in March, 1982. But due to conflict among the partners of the party in power, the Parliament was dissolved and the Election Commission of India decided to conduct polls for the Seventh Lok Sabha. Hence, elections were held in January 1980.

Like the previous election, this time the number of Parliamentary seats of this district was also unchanged and the Bhadrak seat was reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates. For these two seats, besides two Independents, there were, eight candidates. Of these, the Indian National Congress headed by Indira Gandhi, the Janata (Secular) and the Janata had fielded two candidates, one for each seat. The Indian National Congress headed by Devraj Urs and the Jharkhand Party had also one candidate each in the Baleshwar Parliamentary constituency.

In Bhadrak (S. C.) Parliamentary constituency out of the total 6,76,438 electors 3,83,819, i.e., 56.74 per cent exercised their franchise. Of these, 10,926, i.e., 2.84 per cent votes were rejected. Among the contestants the INC (I) candidate got 2,18,002 votes and was declared elected while 93,967, 43,870 and 17,054 votes were casted in favour of Janata (S), Janata and Independent candidate, respectively.

Out of a total electorate of 6,73,782 in Baleshwar Parliamentary constituency 3,98,950, i.e., 59.21 per cent exercised their franchise. Of this, 11,324, i.e., 2.83 per cent votes were rejected. The INC (I) candidate got 2,29,040 votes and was declared elected. Other candidates who contested in this seat belonged to Janata (S), Janata, INC. (U) Jharkhand and Independent. They got 43,820, 89,151, 10,718, 9,162 and 5,735 votes respectively.

The interesting feature of this election is that this time the INC (I) captured both the seats from the B.L.D. which had won in the elections of 1977.

### **Eighth General Elections to State Legislature, 1980**

After the General Elections to Seventh Lok Sabha in January 1980 things took a different turn throughout the country and as in 1977 the State Assembly was dissolved and fresh elections

were held for the State Legislature. Accordingly voting was conducted on the 31st May, 1980. There was no change in the number of Assembly constituencies of this district and as before, the Chandbali and Bhandaripokhari constituencies were reserved for the candidates of Scheduled Castes.

Out of the total electorate of 11,80,128 in this election 6,77,326 or 57.39 per cent voters exercised their franchise. In this election the INC, headed by Indira Gandhi, captured eight, the Janata Party two, and the Communist Party of India two seats.

A detailed account of the 1980 elections to the State Assembly is given below,

Name of the constituency		Number of seats	Number of persons contested	Number of electors	Total votes polled
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Bhograi	..	1	3	98,547	69,330
Jaleshwar	..	1	6	1,09,513	64,969
Basta	..	1	5	89,989	59,194
Baleshwar	..	1	5	1,06,936	54,964
Soro	..	1	6	95,868	52,689
Similia	..	1	7	89,888	40,852
Nilagiri	..	1	7	98,801	54,568
Bhadrak	..	1	6	97,027	50,895
Dhamnagar	..	1	3	99,459	62,373
Basudebpur	..	1	5	1,00,831	65,271
Bhandaripokhari (S.C.)	..	1	7	86,553	49,104
Chandbali (S.C.)	..	1	4	1,06,716	53,117

Name of the Constituency		Per-centage	Total number of rejected votes	Number of polling stations	Successful candidattess of the parties
(1)		(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Bhograi	..	70.35	1,161	131	Congress (I)
Jaleshwar	..	59.32	889	163	Janata (JP)
Basta	..	65.77	1,033	127	Congress(I)
Baleshwar	..	51.39	1,106	150	C. P. I.
Soro	..	54.95	1,170	124	C. P. I.
Similia	..	45.44	958	121	Janata (J.P.)
Nilagiri	..	55.23	1,303	134	Congress(I)
Bhadrak	..	52.45	917	122	Congress(I)
Dhamnagar	..	62.71	1,195	133	Congress (I)
Basudebpur	..	64.73	1,236	132	Congress (I)
Bhandaripokhari (S.C.)	..	56.73	949	118	Congress (I)
Chandbali (S. C.)	..	49.77	843	144	Congress (I)

### Eighth Lok Sabha Elections, 1984

For the eighth time the General Elections to the Lok Sabha in the state was held in the month of December, 1984. Like the previous election, the number of Parliamentary seats of the district remained unchanged and one seat, i. e., Bhadrak was reserved for the Scheduled Castes. Three political parties set up eight candidates for two seats. Besides, four Independent candidates, the Indian National Congress, the Janata had fielded two candidates for each Parliamentary seat.

The number of candidates set up by different political parties is given below.

Political Parties		Baleshwar Parliamentary constituency	Bhadrak Parliamentary constituency	Total
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)
Indian National Congress	..	1	1	2
Janata	..	1	1	2
Independent	..	2	2	4
Total	..	4	4	8

The Baleshwar Parliamentary constituency comprised Bhograi, Jaleshwar, Basta, Baleshwar and Soro Assembly constituencies of Baleshwar district and Baisinga (S. T.) and Khunta (S. T.) Assembly constituencies of Mayurbhanj district. Out of total electorate of 7,36,899 in this election, 4,94,847, i.e., 64 per cent exercised their franchise. In the contest, Indian National Congress candidate won the election by capturing 2,74,294 votes.

In Bhadrak (S. C.) Parliamentary constituency out of total 7,36,023 electors 4,71,134, i.e., 64 per cent exercised their franchise. Of these, 8,218 votes were rejected. Among the contestants the Indian National Congress candidate got 2,56,854 votes and was elected.

The number of candidates set up by different political parties, number of valid votes polled by the candidates of both Baleshwar and Bhadrak Parliamentary constituencies are as follows.

Name of the Political Party	Number of valid votes polled in Baleshwar Parliamentary constituency.	Number of valid votes polled in Bhadrak Parliamentary constituency.
(1)	(2)	(3)
Indian National Congress	2,74,294	2,56,854
Janata ..	1,95,109	1,89,435
Independent	16,627	15,648
Total ..	4,85,960	4,61,937

#### Ninth General Elections to Vidhan Sabha, 1985

The Ninth General Elections of the Orissa State Legislative Assembly were held in March, 1985.

Out of 12 Assembly constituencies, two, namely, Chandbali and Bhandaripokhari constituencies were reserved for the Scheduled Caste candidates. Seven political parties and Independent candidates took part in the election. The number of candidates set up, the number of seats won and the number of valid votes polled by the candidates set up by different political parties were as follows.

Name of the Political Parties	Number of candidates set up	Number of seats won	Number of valid votes polled
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Indian National Congress	12	12	42,9,204
Janata Party ..	11	..	2,07,743
Communist Party ..	5	..	76,098
Lok Dal ..	1	..	1,115
Forward Block ..	1	..	478
Communist Party of India (M)	2	..	23,677
Bharatiya Lok Dal ..	7	..	12,759
Independent ..	30	..	26,815
Total ..	69	12	8,40,889

Altogether 69 candidates contested for twelve Assembly seats in which Indian National Congress candidates captured all the seats.

The following table shows more information about the Ninth General Elections, 1985.

Name of the constituency	No. of seats	No. of persons	No. of electors	Total votes polled	Percentage of votes polled against total No. of electors	Total valid votes polled	Percentage of valid votes polled as against total No. of electors	Party won
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Bhograi	..	1	1,12,601	78,480	69.69	77,626	68.94	INC
Jafeshwar	..	1	1,26,976	86,479	68.11	85,622	67.43	INC
Basta	..	1	1,04,180	65,215	62.59	64,453	61.87	INC
Baleshwar	..	1	1,24,910	76,781	61.46	75,619	60.54	INC
Soro	..	1	1,05,506	66,421	62.95	65,714	62.28	INC
Similia	..	1	99,473	52,463	52.74	51,620	51.89	INC
Nilagiri	..	1	1,09,818	66,226	60.30	65,265	59.43	INC
Bhandaripokhari (SC).	..	1	96,745	65,184	67.37	64,464	66.63	INC
Bhadrak	..	1	1,11,920	74,040	66.15	72,781	65.03	INC
Dhamnagar	..	1	1,14,413	71,482	62.47	70,477	61.59	INC
Chandbali (SC).	..	1	1,24,771	75,704	60.67	74,731	59.89	INC
Basudebpur	..	1	1,12,425	73,266	65.16	72,509	64.49	INC
Total	..	12	13,43,740	8,51,741	63.38	8,40,881	62.58	



### Polling Stations

The number of polling stations have changed from time to time according to the number of electors. The following table presents the number of polling stations in each of the Assembly constituencies in the district for elections of 1961, 1967, 1971, 1974, 1977, 1980, 1984 and 1985.

**Number of Polling Stations**

Name of Assembly Constituencies	1961 Mid-term Elections	1967* General Elections	1971* General Elections	1974 General Elections
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Bhograi	61	..	..	104
Jaleshwar	68	..	..	117
Basta	55	..	..	96
Baleshwar	53	..	..	110
Soro	68	..	..	99
Similia	69	..	..	95
Nilagiri	67	..	..	107
Bhandaripokhari (SC)	..	..	..	94
Bhadrak	60	..	..	107
Dhamnagar	79	..	..	112
Chandbali (SC)	65	..	..	120
Basudebpur	66	..	..	94
	711	749	1,067	1,256

\*Assembly constituency-wise figures are not available.

Source:—Home (Elections) Department, Orissa, Bhubaneswar.

**Number of Polling Stations**

Name of Assembly Constituencies	1977 General Elections		1980 General Elections	1984 General Elections	1985 General Elections
	Lok Sabha	Vidhan Sabha	Lok Sabha & Vidhan Sabha	Lok Sabha	Vidhan Sabha
(1)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Bhograi ..	103	103	131	131	131
Jaleshwar ..	117	122	163	163	163
Basta ..	93	93	127	127	128
Baleshwar ..	111	116	150	151	153
Soro ..	95	96	124	124	124
Similia ..	95	98	121	122	122
Nilagiri ..	110	111	134	135	136
Bhandaripokhari (SC.)	91	91	118	118	118
Bhadrak ..	98	98	122	126	129
Dhamnagar ..	110	112	133	133	134
Chandbali (SC.) —	114	114	144	144	145
Basudebpur ..	98	99	132	134	134
Total ..	1,236	1,254	1,599	1,608	1,617

### Newspapers and Periodicals

The publication of newspapers in the district may be dated back to 1868-69. The Baleshwar Sambad Bahika ( ବାଲେଶ୍ଵର ସମ୍ବାଦ ବାହିକା ) was published under the editorship of famous novelist Fakir Mohan Senapati and Govind Chandra Pattanaik. At first it was being published as a monthly. Later on it became a fortnightly and ultimately a weekly. In 1878 with the encouragement and assistance of Raja Baikunthanath Dey of Baleshwar the Utkal Darpan ( ଉତ୍କଳ ଦର୍ପଣ ) was published for sometimes. It flourished by the endeavour of Kabibar Radhanath Ray and Bhaktakabi Madhusudan Rao. The Sikshya-bandhu ( ଶିକ୍ଷା ବନ୍ଧୁ ) and the Dharmabodhini ( ଧର୍ମ ବୋଧିନୀ ) was published from Baleshwar by Bhaktakabi Madhusudan Rao. The Prajatantra, a well-known Oriya daily was published from Baleshwar by Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab in 1923 as a weekly with the aim of carrying the message of National Movement to the people. This paper became a daily in the year 1947 and was published from Cuttack. The Dagar ( ଦାଗର ) a well-known literary magazine was being published in 1936 from Baleshwar by Kantakabi Lakshmikanta Mahapatra which was subsequently published from Cuttack. At present the Ajikali ( ଅଜିକାଲି ), an Oriya daily on current affairs is being published from Baleshwar since April, 1986 by Bismay Mohanty. A newspaper in Oriya, namely, the Rashtradoot ( ରାଷ୍ଟ୍ର ଦୂତ ) on current topics is being published from Baleshwar since 1972 by the founder Ray Shri Upendra Prasad Nayak. At first it was being published as a weekly. Later on it became a daily since June, 1975. The Janapriya ( ଜନପ୍ରିୟା ) a daily Oriya was published from Baleshwar district since 1985 but it has since been discontinued. Besides these, the well-known daily newspapers in Oriya such as the Samaj, the Prajatantra and the Matrubhumi published from Cuttack; the Swarajya, the Dharitri, the Sambad, the Pragatibadi and the Dinalipi published from Bhubaneswar are in circulation in this district. Among the English dailies, the Statesman, the Amrit Bazar Patrika, the Telegraph, the Indian Express, the Times of India, the Hindu, etc. published from outside the state and the only English daily of Orissa, The Sun Times, published from Bhubaneswar have a fair circulation in the district. Among the newspapers in Hindi, the Nav Bharat Times, the Biswamitra and the Sunmarg, published outside the state are in good circulation among the Hindi-knowing people. Bengali newspapers such as, Jugantar and Basumati have good circulation among the Bengali-knowing persons. Certain Urdu and south Indian language newspapers also have their circulation in the district. Apart from dailies, a good number of periodicals published outside and inside the state in different languages are also in good circulation.

Of the Oriya weeklies published in the district, the Balanga Barta ( ବାଙ୍ଗ ବାର୍ତ୍ତା ) began its publication from Baleshwar in 1972. The Charampa Patra is being published from the district. The Pragati Sikha started its publication from Baleshwar in 1963.

One Oriya fortnightly, namely the Remuna Samachar started publication in 1975.

Among the Oriya magazines mention may be made of monthly, Galpajhar ( ଗଳ୍ପ ଝର ), Nabarag ( ନବରାଗ ), Prava ( ପ୍ରଭା ), Kridalok ( କ୍ରୀଡ଼ାଲୋକ ) and Swastik ( ସ୍ଵସ୍ତିକ ). The Galpajhar started its publication from Bhadrak in 1977. It mainly publishes short stories and essays.

The Prava ( ପ୍ରଭା ) and Nabarag ( ନବରାଗ ) both monthly literary periodicals, started their publications from Akhuapada and Nimpur in the year 1972 and 1979, respectively. The Kridalok ( କ୍ରୀଡ଼ାଲୋକ ) which deals with sports started its publication in 1983. The Swastik is being published since 1977. Besides these, an English quarterly namely Aswini was published from Soro since 1953. An Oriya quarterly named Udgata appeared from Isamnagar, in the year 1979. An English half-yearly, namely, Image, started publication in 1976 from Baleshwar.

Apart from the above newspapers and periodicals most of the educational as well as literary and cultural institutions in the district bring out their own souvenirs and magazines.

### **Voluntary Social Service Organisations**

There are a number of voluntary social service organisations in the district. The main objective of these organisations is to extend necessary co-operation for the social upliftment of the down-trodden mass. A brief account of some of these organisations are given below.

#### **Zilla Nari Sangha, Baleshwar**

The Baleshwar Zilla Nari Sangha was formed in 1955. It is a district level women's organisation having fifty branches in the rural areas. The aims and objectives of this Sangha are to work on the principles of social justice, integrity

and equal rights and opportunities for all; to secure recognition of the inherent right of every human being to work and to the essentials of life, such as, food, clothing, housing, education, social amenities and security by planned distributions; to support the claim of every citizen to the right to enjoy basic civil liberties; to promote greater national integration and unity; to work actively for the general progress and welfare of women and children particularly of Orissa and to co-operate with the people and the organisation of Orissa to assure permanent national unity.

### **Nizgarh Mahila Samiti, Raj-Nilagiri**

The Nizgarh Mahila Samiti established on the 1st April, 1959, was registered under the Societies Registration Act, vide Registration No. 489/26 of 1962-63. This Samiti renders social services during natural calamities like flood and drought. It also renders voluntary services in Eye Camps and Family Planning Camps. The main objective of this organisation is to promote social and educational activities among the womenfolk and children. A condensed course for adult women is being conducted by this Samiti financed by the Central Social Welfare Board. Apart from these, a Supplementary Nutrition Programme, with 100 beneficiaries of expectant mothers and children is also being implemented by this Samiti.

It is managed by a committee. The sources of income of this organisation is the Central Social Welfare Board, State Social Advisory Board, Bhubaneswar and the sale proceeds of vegetables and handicrafts produced by the members of the Samiti. The strength of the Samiti is 65.

### **Binoba Mahila Samiti, Paramanandpur**

With a view to uplifting the down-trodden women and to providing them social prestige and right in the society, this Samiti was established on the 2nd October, 1960. Registered under the Societies Registration Act, this Samiti was named after the great Sarvodaya leader Binoba Bhave. There are 75 members and its management lies with a Working Committee constituted from among the members. The activities of the Samiti include sewing and embroidery, cultivation of vegetables, and handicrafts. It also extends assistance in Family Planning camp. The financial resource include the income from the landed property of the Samiti and fees from the members and Government grant-in-aid. Since four years this Samiti is assisted by the Human Resource Department of Government of India for its two

Early Children Care Education Centres for 3 to 6 age group children with a strength of 60 children.

### **Balipatna Mahila Samiti**

Established on the 1st April, 1973, the Balipatna Mahila Samiti became a registered organisation in November, 1975. It has 52 members. The main aims and objectives of this organisation are (i) to organise new Mahila Samitis in neighbouring villages, (ii) to promote general health of children, expectant and nursing mothers, (iii) to spread knowledge in family planning, (iv) to help the needy women and orphans, (v) to impart training to village women regarding poultry, gardening pisciculture, etc. and to organise economic programme in Mahila Samiti in order to earn money during leisure hours. Feeding, poultry, goat rearing, gardening and vegetable cultivation are the main activities of the Samiti. It is managed by a seven-member governing body. It derives its income from poultry farms, goat rearing, sale proceeds from cultivation, membership and donation. It also gets grants from the State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Bhubaneswar, occasionally.

### **Kasturba Mahila Samiti, Khalamunhani**

The Kasturba Mahila Samiti was started on the 1st June 1976 with a view to enhancing the out-look of the village women suffering from ignorance. At present it has 37 members and it is managed by an executive body consisting of five members. The institution has made literate more than 250 men and women in 1979-80 and for this purpose it received Rs. 750 from the State Social Welfare Advisory Board. Under the socio-economic programme it has got ten sewing machines from the Central Social Welfare Board on loan basis repayable in 28 monthly instalments. The other activities of the Samiti are to impart training on sewing, cutting of garments and embroidery works. The sources of income of this Samiti include membership, donation, government grant-in-aid, sale proceeds of handicrafts, etc.

### **Kaupur Grama Panchayat Mahila Samiti**

This Mahila Samiti was registered under the Societies Registration Act in the year 1975-76. The aims and objectives of this organisation are to initiate a sense of co-operation among the womenfolk and to increase the skills of self-dependence of the women of rural community. The Samiti has undertaken a condensed course programme for adult women (destitutes) since 1980. Besides, a nutrition programme of 40 children is also in operation from 1976. Under the socio-economic

programme a dairy scheme has been launched. Apart from this, a programme to educate the rural illiterate women has been undertaken by its members.

### **Bijay Sisusadan, Mukundpur**

The organisation had its inception in the year 1957. In that year a Yubak Sangh was organised by some young men for the developmental works of the village. But later it could not continue due to want of sufficient fund. In 1962, the Yubak Sangh changed its name to Bijay Sisusadan. It had its registration in the same year. At present the strength of this organisation is 350 members. The organisation is managed by a managing committee consisting of eleven members. The financial resource of this Sadan are public donation, membership fees and subscriptions. Besides, it gets grant-in-aid from the State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Bhubaneswar. The aims and objectives of the organisation are (i) to render voluntary social service to the local people, (ii) to promote education and health services and to manage craft-training-cum-production centre for women and children, and (iii) to give financial assistance to the poor and needy people. It manages a Balwadi centre with 40 children. The institution also provides mid-day meal to the children. It maintains a library consisting of nearly one thousand books. The institution provides magazines, newspapers and indoor and outdoor game facilities.

### **Gopabandhu Youth Club, Khuard**

The Gopabandhu Youth Club is an outcome of the revival of an old library named Gopabandhu Pathagar established in 1955. Though this organisation started functioning on 12th June 1968, institutionally, it got registered in the year 1974. It has 35 members. This institution is managed by a committee consisting of seven members. The aims and objectives of the organisation are to (i) cultivate healthy atmosphere in rural areas, (ii) create competitive spirit among the rural students, (iii) provide facilities for cultural activities and (iv) take up development of the villages through social service. Other activities of the club include creche programme for working women's children under Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi supervised by the State Social Welfare Advisory Board, repair and construction of village roads; pisciculture and implementation of adult literary programme. It also organises Oriya essay, debate, song and general knowledge competitions among the students and arranges football tournaments. The financial resource of the organisation are membership fees, donation, income from pisciculture and aids from Central Social Welfare Board, Directorate of Cultural Affairs and Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library foundation.

### **Ramkrushna Club, Kulana**

This organisation started functioning since November, 1955. It owes its name to the saint Ramakrushna Paramahansa. The present strength of this institution is more than sixty. The aim and objectives of this club are to (i) foster, encourage and improve the cultural activities of the villagers by means of organising debates, discussions, meetings, seminars and staging drama, (ii) help the people at the time of natural calamities like flood and cyclone, (iii) arrange sports and games, (iv) provide newspapers and periodicals to its members and (v) maintain a library for the cultural upliftment of the villagers. The management of the club is vested with an executive committee consisting of six members. To develop the educational and physical standard of children within the age-group of 2 to 6 years, a Balwadi school is being managed by the club since 1976. The financial sources of this club are government grant, membership fees and sale proceeds of the outturn from its land. The organisation has a good library.

### **Palimangal Yubak Sangh, Padhuan**

Established on the 1st January 1974, this organisation got registered in 1975. There are twenty members in this institution and it is managed by a governing body consisting of seven members. The aims and objectives of the Yubak Sangh are to (i) promote general health of children, expectant and nursing mothers, (ii) develop qualities of leadership, (iii) promote literature, science and fine art, (iv) develop rural recreational and cultural activities and (v) extend assistance for charitable purposes. The income source of the Sangh include members subscription, donation, pisciculture, agriculture, poultry, etc. It also gets grants from the Government. Thirty adult education centres and one childhood education centre are managed by this Sangh. This organisation takes steps for abolition of dowry, untouchability and to spread the idea of family planning. A Balwadi centre was opened by the Sangh to adopt supplementary nutrition programme for children.

### **Gandhi Seva Sangha (Purubai Kanyashram), Soro**

The Gandhi Seva Sangha was started with only seven orphans in the year 1930. Registered under the Societies Registration Act in 1973-74, this institution was founded by Smt. Purubai Ben, a philanthropic lady of Gujarat. It is an orphanage for girls only. The chief aims and objectives of this Kanyashram is to take care of orphans and destitutes and poor children belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.



In order to make them useful and self-reliant in the society, general education as well as training in various crafts, arts and agriculture are imparted to them with the provision of free lodging, fooding and clothing. There are 100 orphans in this Kanyashram at present. The affairs of the institution is managed by a managing committee consisting of 13 members. It is one of the Gandhian institutions and the daily programme is performed on Gandhian line. The main sources of income for the management of this institution are subscription and donation from the public. It also gets government grant-in-aid.

### **Gandhi Orissa Balashram, Bhadrak**

This organisation was founded in 1927 by Seth Jivaram Kalyanaji Kothari, a man from Gujarat. Registered under the Societies Registration Act, this institution is managed by a managing committee consisting of fifteen members from different districts of the state. This institution was established with a view to imparting education to the Adivasi and Harijan boys and orphans. Training in different crafts, arts, agriculture, gardening, bee-keeping, animal husbandry, etc., are also imparted to them. The inmates of this Balashram are provided with free boarding, lodging, clothing, sanitation and other facilities. Generally the boys are admitted at the age of six and required to stay till they attain 18 years. A music college with affiliation to Allahbad University is functioning here. A condensed course programme for adult women is continuing here since 1968 and it has achieved a remarkable result at the H. S. C. examination in 1977. The main financial sources of this Ashram are subscription and donation from public and grant-in-aid from the Government,

### **Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust**

The Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust is an all-India organisation established in 1945 with its central office at Kasturba-nagar, Indore, Madhya Pradesh. The head office of its Orissa branch is at Satyabhamapur, Cuttack. Out of 14 Seva centres in Orissa there is one in the district at Phulgadia under Bant C. D. Block. The main aim and objective of this organisation is to look after the welfare of the women and children in rural areas. The Phulgadia Seva Centre, like its other sister organisations, is dedicated for the upliftment of women and children through different activities. A Maternity and Child Welfare Centre is continuing here since 1957. From the 1st February 1972, a Balwadi centre and Nutrition Programmes are being managed here. There are four lady workers to look after the centre. The expenditure of this centre is met from the grants by the Central Social Welfare Board,

New Delhi, State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Bhubaneswar, Indian Red-cross Society and the Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, Orissa Branch.

### **Shanti Anathashram, Haripur**

The establishment of the Shanti Anathashram can be traced back to 1971 when Government started the relief programme to feed the unfed and distressed cyclone-affected people of Tihiri area through Mahila Samitis. All the Mahila Samitis of Tihiri C. D. Block gradually became united and it took the shape of a district level organisation in 1973-74. It became a registered institution under the Societies Registration Act, in the year 1976-77. The aims and objectives of the Anathashram is to (i) promote the educational, social and cultural welfare of the backward communities, specially the orphans, (ii) spread the idea of co-operation, (iii) organise and take-up all constructive programmes preached by Mahatma Gandhi and Vinoba Bhave and (iv) organise relief work among the people during the period of natural calamity. Tailoring, embroidery and training in agriculture is also imparted here. The management of the Ashram is vested with a governing body consisting of nine members. For the maintainance of the Ashram, donations are collected from the executive members, the public and the secretaries of the Mahila Samitis. Besides pisciculture, poultry, dairy and grant-in-aid from the Government are sources of income.

### **District Council for Child Welfare, Baleshwar**

The District Council for Child Welfare is functioning since 1961-62. The council has six centres under it, located at Dahamunda, Kedarpur, Radhaballabhpur, Sahidnagar, Panchutikiri and Balimed. The aims and objectives of this organisation are to undertake welfare works of the children, adolescents, expectant and nursing mothers. The affairs of the council is managed by an executive committee. About 75 per cent of the total expenditure is met by the State Social Welfare Advisory Board and the rest 25 per cent is raised by contributions from the public.

### **Manmohan Sangeet Parishad, Bhadrak**

Manmohan Sangeet Parishad, a college of Indian music, dance and drama was established on the 26th January, 1950. The institution is dedicated to the sacred memory of late Manmohan Sabat, a renowned musician and it is affiliated to the Pracheen Kala Kendra, Chandigarh. It has been recognised and is being aided by the Orissa Sangeet Natak Academy, State Social

Welfare Board, Government of Orissa, and Central Government as well. The Parishad has been declared as an examination centre for conducting examinations in music and dance. The subjects taught in this institution are vocal music, instrumental music and dance. Duration of course is 8 years and Bhav Sangeet Course is up to six years. At present, there are 161 students and 8 teachers in the Parishad.

### **Neela Chakra**

Neela Chakra, a socio-cultural organisation was established in the year 1970 with headquarters at Cuttack and was recognised by the State Government in 1971.

The main objectives of this organisation are (i) propagation and expansion of 'Jagannath Cult' in different parts of the state as well as outside the state (ii) to look after the social welfare of the people (iii) to present the legitimate demands of the public before the Union and State Governments and (iv) to work for a social and cultural renaissance of the people of Orissa.

In the district, the organisation has three branches located at Chandbali, Remuna and Baleshwar. It has submitted a number of memoranda to the Union and State Governments for the establishment of industries and factories in the district. This organisation has also requested different public and private sector employers to provide 90 per cent of employment opportunity to local candidates. A number of seminars have also been organised on Jagannath cult by this institution in the district.

### **Netaji Jubak Sangh, Paramanandapur**

This organisation is functioning in the rural areas of Bhandari-pokhari under Bhadrak subdivision since 1971 and got registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860 during 1972-73. It has 52 active members and managed by an executive body of ten members elected by the general members once in a year. As per the aims and objectives of the organisation the Sangh has undertaken vocational training on tailoring and managing a creche centre for of children. To co-ordinate youth power through sports and cultural activities, to implement socio-developmental works of the Government to facilitate health and family welfare programme of the Government, and to extend library facility to common people are the aims and objectives of

this organisation. The financial resources are public donation, subscription of members, and aids from Central Social Welfare Board, Union Government, State Government and State Youth Welfare Board.

#### **The Aurobindo Students Mission, Matrupuram**

The Aurobindo Students Mission was started on the 25th December 1971. At present the strength of the Mission is 105 and it is managed by a committee consisting of 9 members. All its activities are based on spiritual background. The aim and object of this mission is to propagate the ideas of Shri Aurobindo in all spheres of life i.e., science, education, industries, agriculture, games, sports culture, social work, etc. The mission runs a residential school with 150 students as boarders, a diary farm, an agricultural farm, a music and dance school, a Khadi centre and a public library, a child home consisting of 50 orphans, an early education centre, a Matric condensed course for woman and a unit of adult education centre. The financial resources of the mission are donations from public, awards from state and Central Government and income from its agriculture and diary farm.

#### **Bisalakshi Mahila Samiti, Nampo**

The Bisalakshi Mahila Samiti was formed in the district of during the February 1963. The management of the Samiti is vested in a Managing Committee. The aims and objectives of the Mahila Samiti are (i) to free the female-folk from their age-old bondage, eradicate dowry, untouchability, superstition and lead them towards education, (ii) preparation of care food for distribution among needy children and mothers, and (iii) to make females self-employed whether at home or outside (iv) to teach the members about maternity and child welfare and also domestic science. The financial resources are donations, pisciculture, membership fees and income from its own land. The present membership of the Samiti is 32.

#### **Pallishree Yubak Sangh, Chudamanipur**

The Pallishree Yubak Sangh started functioning in 1979 and registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. It has forty members. The Sangh is managed by a executive committee. All the members of the committee are for 5 years. The financial resources of this Sangha are public donation, subscriptions, contributions, Government and non-Government aids, loans, etc. This institution is working to develop cultural activities, to nurse and feed the children of the locality, to work for the protection of the environment and developmental work of the village.

**Aurosikha Mahila Samiti, Matrupuri**

Aurosikha Mahila Samiti was established in 1976 and registered in November 1979. It has 32 active members and managed by seven members elected from the general members. The financial resources of the samiti are from Block Development Office, Bhograi; Social Welfare Advisory Board, member fees and donations. One Balwadi centre is running by the Samiti. To take health care of children and nursing mother, nutrition programmes and to spread knowledge on family planning are the aims and objectives of the Samity.

**Chakeswari Indira Mahila Samiti, Kharidchak**

The Chakeswari Indira Mahila Samiti started functioning on 3rd June 1973 and registered in the year 1976. This institution is managed by an executive committee consisting of nine members. There is also an Advisory Committee to help for the smooth management. The financial resources of this Samiti are donation, member fees, and from the cottage industries like chalk-making, tailoring, incense-stick manufacturings, etc. It has 75 members. The aims and objectives of this organisation are (i) to promote general health of children, pregnant and nursing mothers and spread knowledge on family planning, (ii) organisation of Balwari schools for children in rural areas, (iii) to work for the improvement of needy women and orphan children in the society, (iv) recreation and cultural programme for women and children, (v) training to village women in tailoring, chalk-making, incense-stick manufacturing, poultry, gardening, pisciculture, etc., and (vi) to work for adult education.

**Tarun Yubak Sangh, Khanbad**

The Tarun Yubak Sangh, Khanbad started functioning in the year 1970. It has 30 members. Membership fees, government aids and donations are the financial resources of this Sangh. The aims and objectives of the Sangh are (i) to perform social services like cleaning of roads, ponds, etc., (ii) to render education to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes children through Balwadi centre, (iii) to hold annual sports once every year among U. P. and M. E. school children of the local schools, (iv) to check the health of the children of the local schools and (v) to help the members of the Sangh and other active people to develop their standard in farming, community life, etc.

### **Sital Mahila Samiti, Khuluda**

The Sital Mahila Samiti is functioning since 1975 and registered in 1976. The present strength of this Samiti is 21 members. Five members out of these 21 members are functioning as President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer. The Samiti is managed by these 5 members. The aims and objectives of this Samiti are tailoring, family planning, feeding, etc.

### **Utkal Pallisevak Sangh, Turigaria**

The Utkal Pallisevak Sangh is working in the rural areas since 1970 to follow the path of Gandhiji and Jayprakash Narayan. It has 11 members. The Director of this Sangh is functioning as the head of the Sangh. It is running by donation from public and subscription from Sangh members. The aims and objectives of this Sangh are to serve downtrodden people, movement against dowry system, family planning, adult education, to organise public meetings on hygiene and sanitation, formation of Mahila Samitis, Yubak Sangh, etc.

### **Netaji Yubak Sangh, Dharamdwar**

The Netaji Yubak Sangh has started functioning since 26th January 1976 and registered in 1977. The present strength of the Sangh is 43 members. This organisation has a managing committee consisting of 7 members. The resources are being collected from membership fees, grant from Social Welfare Board and Central Social Welfare Board, donation, etc. The aims and objectives of the organisation are to develop moral sense of the members, to develop the standard of the members to lead a better and peaceful community life.

### **Shrima Dhyana Mandir, Gopinathpur**

The foundation of Shrima Dhyana Mandir, Gopinathpur was laid on the 28th January 1979 and registered in 1981. It has 200 members and is being managed by an executive committee consisting of seven members. The main aim and objective of the Dhyana Mandir is to serve the society and help in the solution of various problems in the community for a better social life both spiritually and economically. The Mandir accorded grant-in-aid from the State and Central Governments besides donations from public.

### **Handicapped Welfare Organisation, Baleshwar**

The Baleshwar District Handicapped Welfare Organisation was established in Baleshwar on the 1st day of January, 1981. Subsequently the name of the organisation was changed to Handicapped Welfare Organisation, Baleshwar. The administration of the organisation is manned by an Executive Committee elected by the general body. In the general body there are 8 patrons, 279 life members and 153 annual members. The organisation is providing (a) artificial limbs, (b) school for mentally retarded children, (c) vocational training-cum-production centre, (d) physiotherapy, and (e) immunisation programme. Under this immunisation programme children are vaccinated against polio with the help and co-operation of Rupsa Public Health Centre. Rehabilitation Camps are being held for disabled people for self employment, training, treatment, etc. The organisation is running on public donation, grant-in-aid from Oxfam and State Government.

### **Bijayananda Club, Palia**

Bijayananda Club, Palia is functioning with effect from the 15th August, 1967 and has been registered in 1976. It has 132 members. This organisation is managed by an executive committee consisting of 11 members. The expenditure is met by donation, membership fee and grant from State and Central Social Welfare Boards. The main objectives of this club are to establish physical, cultural, sports organisations, plantation, repairing of roads, immunisation programmes, etc.

### **Pragati Yubak Sangh, Panchapada**

The Pragati Yubak Sangh, Panchapada was established in 1970 to improve the economic standard and social welfare of the community. Its other objectives are to organise adult education, provide good library, recreational and cultural facilities. The Sangh meets its expenditure from donations and membership fees. It has 55 members and is managed by a committee consisting of 6 members.

### **Banchhanidhi Smarak Natya Niketan, Eram**

Banchhanidhi Smarak Natya Niketan was established in 1962 and is named after the poet late Banchhanidhi Mohanty of Eram. The institution is running for the cultural, social and academic upliftment of the locality. It has 35 members. The aims and objectives of this institution are to

organise recreational programmes, summer camps, dramas, organisation of sports, seminars on academic and literary aspects, social service during the local festivals, etc.

### **Lion's Club, Baleshwar**

The Lion's Club, Baleshwar was inaugurated by Biju Patnaik, the then Chief Minister of Orissa on the 2nd February, 1975 and the Charter presentation was given by the then Governor of Orissa, Akbar Ali Khan on the 22nd June, 1975. The present membership of the club is 39. The main aim and object of this institution is to serve the poor and backward people of the society and to take active interest in the cultural, social and moral welfare of the community. The club has adopted Tamulia village consisting of 37 families belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for their development. On every Sunday, polio vaccine and Triple Antigen are given to the children in Motiganj area of Baleshwar town by this club. It has undertaken the work of constructing a hospital at Baleshwar for the treatment of children. The affairs of the club is managed by a board. Its financial resources include subscription from the club members and funds from Lion's International.

### **Rotary Club, Bhadrak**

The organisation started functioning in the year 1972. Social services is the main aim and object of this club. It is affiliated to the Rotary International with headquarters at Evanston, Illinois, U.S.A. At present there are 23 members. The affairs of the club is managed by an elected body as per Rotary International's rules.

The club has constructed a rest-shed on Chandbali crossing for the passengers. Four free eye operation camps have been successfully organised and about 450 operations have been conducted by the club. A sewing centre for ladies has been started by this organisation. Besides, a library and reading room for children and an adult education centre is also managed by it. Polio vaccines are frequently provided to children free of cost. Apart from these, the club has undertaken the job of constructing a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre in the town. The financial resource of the club is donation.

### **Bharat Scouts and Guides**

The Scout movement in the district was quite active till 1955. But later it became almost dormant for some years. Since 1960 Baleshwar and Mayurbhanj district formed the



Baleshwar-Mayurbhanj circle districts association and this arrangement continued till 1963-64. In the year 1968-69, Baleshwar district was divided into two district organisations. Baleshwar I and Baleshwar II educational districts formed the Baleshwar District organisation and a separate district organisation was created for Bhadrak Educational district. In the year 1978-79, there were 232 registered scouts and 24 Guides in the Baleshwar district organisation and 384 scouts and 128 guides in the Bhadrak district organisation. The aims and objects of this organisation are four-fold, viz., (i) formation of character, (ii) formation of sound health habits. (iii) training in handicrafts and acquiring useful skills and (iv) cultivation of proper spirit of service and to training for rendering services efficiently.

The affairs of the District Associations of the Bharat Scouts and Guides are managed by their respective District Councils and Executive Committees. The Presidents, Vice-Presidents of the District Council and the Chairman of the District Executive Committees are elected from among the members of the District Association for term of three years as per rules of the organisation. The District Commissioners for Scouts and Guides and Assistant District Commissioners are appointed by the State Chief Commissioner of the State Association.

The main sources of income of the District Associations are (i) the share money out of registration fees collected from the Scout Guide funds of the schools, (ii) donations from generous public and (iii) annual as well as life-membership fees.

### **Indian Red Cross Society, Baleshwar District Branch**

The Baleshwar District Branch of the Indian Red Cross Society constituted under the provisions of the Indian Red Cross Society Act, 1920 is functioning since 1963.

Being a noble and philanthropic organisation, prevention of disease, promotion of health, mitigation of human sufferings and rendering all possible assistance at the time of natural calamities like flood, drought, cyclone, fire, accidents, etc., are the main aims and objectives of this society.

There were altogether 29,730 members in this branch at the end of 1985 of which 4 are Honorary Vice Presidents, 1 Patron, 1 Vice Patron, 80 life members, 162 life associate members, 131 Institutional members, 614 annual members and 28,737 annual associates.

This organisation makes contributions to the eye camps organised in this district. It also gives immediate assistance to the fire-affected people. Poor persons suffering from serious diseases and poor students are helped by this society. Besides, at the time of natural calamities relief materials are donated by the State Red Cross Society or other philanthropic organisations are distributed among the affected people. A Blood Bank has been established at Bhadrak. A warehouse has been built at Baleshwar with the aid of Indian Central Branch, New Delhi.

A paediatric ward has been started with a provision of 16 beds. Two power generators have been donated by the district branch to meet the emergent need of the patients at the time of power cut. A dispensary has been established in the Chandbali C. D. Block by the state branch.

The affairs of the society is managed by a committee consisting of 28 ex officio and 8 non-official members.

For financial resources the District Branch of the Indian Red Cross Society depends upon :—

- (i) Membership subscription
- (ii) Public donation
- (iii) Funds raised by it by exhibiting charity film shows
- (iv) Theatre parties showing charity shows
- (v) Contributions by local cultural associations by means of staging dramas
- (vi) Grant-in-aid received from the state branch

## OXFAM

OXFAM is an international organisation with its headquarters at Oxford, U.K. It is an agency which provides funds to local organisations to undertake relief, humanitarian and development works.

In the district, its activities are confined to Baliapal Block. It has provided a grant to Samagra Vikas Parishad of Baliapal for assisting poor fishermen to replace their nets and equipments which they lost in the 1978 flood. This organisation has given funds to the Sarvodaya Relief Committee, Cuttack to undertake varieties of activities associated with the people affected by the floods of 1978. In addition, provision has been made by this organisation for assisting small village communities to strengthen their village credit funds in Baliapal Block.

## UNICEF

UNICEF is the abbreviation of the United Nations Childrens Emergency Fund. This international organisation has provided four vehicles for the district which are being used in Baleshwar Sadar, Tihiri, Nilagiri and Khaira Blocks exclusively for Community Development works.

Besides the above mentioned organisations, there are many other active voluntary social service organisations in this district. Of them, the names of Utkal Balashram Baleshwar; Padmapur Mahila Samiti, Padmapur; Arunoday Yubak Sangh, Parbatipur; Godabarish Pathagar, Uparkundi; Sri Durga Yubak Sangh, Jaleshwar; Sri Sri Mukteswar Yubak Sangh, Berhampur; Merangaburu Patharchati Anathashram, Patharchati; Krusikha Mahila Samiti, Gopinathpur; Kurusinga Yubak Sangh, Kurusinga; Basanti Mahila Samiti, Bankabazar, Bhadrak; Radhakantajeu Jubak Sangh, Nalabara; Pragati Yuba Sansad, Patna (Katasahi) Sriganga; Grama Mangal Yubak Sangh, Pahanga; Amarjyoti Yubak Sangh, Nawrangipur; Jai Jagannath Youth Cultural Society; Arjunbindha; Sri Jagannath Yubak Sangh, Tihiri; Basanti Pallimangal Kendra, Sadanandpur; Bijayee Meenamandali, Bhadrak; Mandaruni Seva Sangh, Badamanderuni; Binobha Mahila Samiti, Balipokhari; Utkal Laxmi Pathagar, Bankabazar, Bhadrak; Sugo Sava Sangh, Sugo; Sahid Memorial Committee, Sahidnagar, Bhadrak; Kaupur Grama Panchayat Yubak Sangh, Kaupur; Sarvodaya Sevak Samaj, Talapada; Thakkar Bapa Ashram, Sahara; and Binapani Mahila Samiti, Nandigram may be mentioned here. These institutions get financial assistance from the State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Bhubaneswar for implementation of different programmes for the welfare of the people.

## CHAPTER XIX

### PLACES OF INTEREST

#### **Anapal**

Anapal is situated on the southern bank of the Nalia, a branch of the river Salandi, at a distance of 9.6 km. from Bhadrak town. The place is important for the deity Lord Ananta. A canopy of seven-hooded snake is found over the head of this image. Of the four hands of the deity, the upper right hand holds *akshamala* and the lower left hand rests on an attendant. Two other hands of the deity have been mutilated. The two female attendants are carved on the sides of the deity. The figure of Lord Ananta which was originally built in dark chlorite stone has lost much of its original colour due to the exposure. The image has been installed on a masonry pedestal.

#### **Apanda**

Apanda is a village in Bant Community Development Block of Bhadrak subdivision. It is situated at a distance of 23 kilometres from Bhadrak town and approachable by an all weather road. It is 2 km. from Bant.

The village is known for its beautiful Buddha image in *Dhyana-mudra* pose placed on a raised platform made of laterite stone. The image measures 5 feet 6 inches (1.6764 m.) in height and 2 feet 8 inches (0.8128 m.) in breadth. In Orissa, this type of Buddha image is rare on account of its iconographical features. It is declared as a protected monument by the Orissa State Archaeology, Bhubaneswar.

Besides, the village contains the temples dedicated to Basuli, Swapneswar Mahadev, Gopal Jeu, Shyamasundar Jeu and Mangala.

Population of the place in the Census of 1981 was 886 persons.

#### **Aradi**

Aradi is situated 2.5 km. north of the Baitarani in Chandbali Tahasil. It is 11 km. from Chandbali. From Chandbali one can go to Aradi by country boat or motor launch through the river Baitarani. Recently, a road has been constructed from Bhadrak to reach Aradi (distance 37 km.) by regular bus service. A Panthasala has been constructed to cater to the needs of the pilgrims by the Tourism Department, Government of Orissa.

Aradi has earned the distinction of a religious centre due to the location of the famous Akhandalamani Siva temple. The temple is situated in a picturesque spot on the bank of the river Baitarani. The *vimana* as well as the Jagamohan of the temple are of recent built. Both the structures are designed as *pidha* temple and thickly plastered. The Bhanja rulers of the ex-estate of Kanika had constructed this religious shrine. It is believed that people bitten by snake will recover if brought to this holy place. On the day of Sivarati a large festival is held here and thousands of pilgrims congregate for worshipping Lord Siva. A big *mela* is held on the occasion where shopkeepers do a brisk business. The number of pilgrims coming to this place increases in the month of Baisakh (April-May) when many devotees come for a holy ablution of the deity. Besides, regular assemble of devotees takes place everyday specially on Mondays. The temple is managed by a Board of Trustee.

The village contains a High English school, Ayurvedic dispensary, post office, Revenue Rest Shed and inspection bungalow. A bi-weekly market sits here on every Sunday and Thursday.

Population of the place in the Census of 1981 was 1,548 persons.

### Abhana

Abhana is a village in Soro police-station, 19.2 km., from Bahanaga railway station. In 1981, the place came to prominence when the students of Belabhumii college cleaned the debris around the Brahmani temple of the village. The Brahmani temple complex was built in laterite stones in *khakhara* design. The dilapidated Jagamohan of the temple under the debris was exposed up to the plinth level only after the excavation of the site. The lintel of Brahmani temple preserves an inscription which palaeographically can be assigned to the Bhaumakara period. The remains exposed during the clearance include two images of Mahisamardini Durga, a Saptamatruka panel, figures of Ganesh, Parvati, Boddhisatva, Jaina Tirthankaras and terracotta tablets depicting Buddhist *dharanis*. Such seals containing Buddhist *dharanis* are also found in different places of the village during agricultural operations, construction of houses, digging of wells, etc. This indicates that there was a Buddhist Vihar at the place which was subsequently changed to a Brahminical site. The presiding deity, Brahmani, widely acclaimed by the local people is actually a Chamunda image of the Saptamatruka group. The figure is visible only from neck portion upwards and the four hands. The lower limb of the figure is under the

ground. The archaeological remains are preserved in a room of the Belabhum college at Abhana. There is a short inscription on one of the stone sculptures preserved here.

There are college, High English school, Sanskrit Tol, Youth Club, Fishery Co-operative Society and sub-post office.

Population of the place in the Census 1981 was 2,267 persons.

### Ayodhya

Ayodhya is situated in Nilagiri subdivision at a distance of 10 km. from Nilagiri town. It is practically surrounded by rivers, the Gharghara flowing in the east, the Sona in the north and the Sindhu in the west. At Ayodhya there are vast ruins of an old township where there were a large number of Hindu and Buddhist temples. But not a single shrine is there with its former grandeur. From the inscriptions on the images, the date of Ayodhya can be assigned to the 10th century A. D., if not earlier.

The presiding deity of Ayodhya was Marichi, and this goddess is worshipped here even today on whose honour a festival is held annually during Durga Puja (Dasahara). The huge mass of architectural ruins indicate that the original temple of Marichi was a very large one and it was situated in the centre of not less than one hundred shrines scattered all around. Some Matraka images, such as, Manjusri, Lokeswar and Tara have also been found from the debris. The images of Manjusri, Lokeswar and Marichi found here are great treasures of Buddhist art, and these three combinedly convey the intensity of religious feelings of an age when the Tantric worship was in ascendancy. Besides, the Tara images of Ayodhya are most remarkable for their size, number, variety, artistic beauty and grandeur. The image of Vajra Tara inside the modern temple of Uttareswar is a rare specimen of sculptural art in India.

A group of new temples, namely, Jayadurga, Bateswar, Dakshineswar and Maninageswar have been constructed by one Bhanu Khuntia. Except the Jayadurga temple, Sivalingas are worshipped in other three shrines. The larger shrines are constructed in *rekha* style while the smaller ones represent *pidha* order. All of them are thickly plastered with lime mortar. The sixteen-sided monolithic pillar installed in front of Jayadurga temple was brought from another site of the village. In the sanctum of the Jayadurga temple besides the image of Marichi there are beautiful figures of Manjusri, Lokeswar and Bartali.

The three-faced and eight-armed Marichi image stands in the *alidha* pose on a chariot drawn by seven pigs. The effigy of Dhyanī Buddha Vairochana is depicted on the crown. Attributes like Tarjani, goad, thread, needle, Vajra and arrow are shown in the hands of Marichi. A series of devotees are noticed on the pedestal. The image is 1·0668 metres (3·6 feet) in height, and the popular Buddhist formula "*Ye dharma hetu,*" etc., has been inscribed on the slab in the character of 10th century A. D. indicating that the antiquities of the site are assignable to this period.

The Manjusri image is kept to the right of the Marichi figure. The God is two-armed and placed on a lotus pedestal in a graceful Tribhanga pose dressed in princely attires. Sudhan Kumar with manuscript and Yamari riding over a buffalo are carved on the right and left of the image respectively. A beautiful *torana* with Gajasimha motifs at the base and Kinnaris at the both ends of its architrave and Vidyadharis holding garlands in hands are carved while a group of devotees in kneeling pose with folded hands are represented below the lotus pedestal of the God.

The image of Padmapani Avalokiteswar is installed to the left of Marichi figure. This two-armed figure is carved in the conventional pose at a double-petalled lotus pedestal below which are seen a series of devotees in kneeling pose.

The image of Bartali is kept on the floor of the sanctum. The people wrongly identified this image with Varahi for its sow like face. But in actual practice Bartali is one of the four attendants of Marichi, the other three being Badali, Barali and Barahamukhi. This particular image of Bartali is four-armed and three-eyed. It stands in *alidha* pose on a well decorated lotus throne.

In addition to the four images described above, a few other images of miniature size are fixed in the niches of the walls of the Jagamohan. The image of Gajalaxmi is carved on the entrance door. An image of Buddha in *bhumisparsa mudra* is kept on a niche of the wall to the left of the entrance door.

In the sanctum of the Bateswar temple are found a Sivalinga within the Saktipitha. In the Maninageswar temple are kept two Jaina images of Risabhanath and Ambika. A beautiful image of Parswanath of chlorite stone is found resting at the outer wall of the temple. It stands on a double-petalled lotus pedestal with a canopy of seven-hooded snake overhead. The other notable features of this Tirthankara are the two Chauri-bearers, the Astagrahas, trilinear umbrella, Kevala tree and the

Gandharvas holding garlands and playing cymbals. A number of beautiful sculptures are in possession of the private people of the village of which the images of Tara, a headless Budha figure, Parswanath images, the figure of Ambika, a remarkable Jaina Tirthankar image of Mahavira and an image of Radha-Krushna are notable. In the premises of the Ayodhya High English school a good number of fragmentary sculptures have been kept. They have been collected with the help of school children to build a museum of their own. As noted above, a few of the sculptures of this site are in private possession of the local people while a few others have found their way into the hands of curio hunters. Recently, the Orissa State Archaeology, Bhubaneshwar, have erected an archaeological shed at the site.

There are High English schools, dispensary and post-office. A bi-weekly market sits here on every Wednesday and Saturday.

Population of the village in the Census of 1981 was 2,381 persons.

### **Badagan**

The village Badagan is situated at a distance of about 8 km. from Soro in Baleshwar subdivision. The annual car festival held here attracts a large number of people from the neighbouring area. The Baseli temple located here is a modern temple without any architectural design. The presiding deity of the temple is identified with Vajra-Vārahi of the Tantric Buddhist pantheon prevalent in Orissa in early mediaeval period. Local people worshipped this deity by mistake as Baseli Thakurani. Besides the presiding deity, the figures of a ten-armed Mahisamardini Durga, Astika-Jaratkaru and a stone slab containing ten lines of an inscription in proto-Oriya script are found in the premises of the temple. The remains of a fort are noticed in the adjoining area of the village. Large-sized old bricks and stone slabs are lying scattered in and around the fortified area. It is locally believed that the fort was erected by Lord Ramachandra during the period of his exile (Banabasa). But the date of the fort can be assigned to the 8th century A. D. on the basis of the evidence available from the remnants of the fort.

### **Balaramgadi**

Balaramgadi is a village in Baleshwar subdivision, situated 14.5 km. east of Baleshwar town on the mouth of the river Burhabalanga. The village formerly contained an English cloth factory. The village was destroyed by the cyclone of 1831. Since then it never regained its old prosperity.



Now it is growing as a major fishing centre for exporting sea fish to Calcutta. Numbers of power as well as country boats are engaged for fishing in the deep sea and tonnes of fish are being sent through roadways and railways to different places. The Fishery Department of the Government of Orissa has established here a jetty, a cold storage and an ice-factory. A private cold storage-*cum*-ice-factory has also come up recently.

Tourists can stay at Chandipur which is 2 km. away from Balaramgadi or in the recently built Kashmiri Hotel close to Fishery Department's ice-plant and can go into the deep sea by a power boat locally available.

### Baleshwar

Baleshwar, situated in  $21^{\circ} 30' \text{ N.}$  and  $85^{\circ} 56' \text{ E.}$ , on the right bank of the Burhabalanga river, is the principal town and administrative headquarters of the district. Popular tradition ascribes the derivation of the name to Mahadev Baneswar, meaning the lord of the forest, whose temple still stands in the town. The name Baleshwar has also been explained by some as being a corruption of Bala Ishwar, i.e., the young Lord Shri Krishna.

Baleshwar did not come into prominence till after the Muslim conquest, when a number of soldiers settled down at Kasaba, a suburb of the town. Its rise as a commercial town does not date further back than the beginning of the 17th century A. D., when the fine muslin and cotton fabrics woven by its weavers began to attract attention. It was at this time a favourite resort of the Mughal Governor Mir Taqi Khan who built the masonry tank, the reservoir, the mosque and gardens known as Qadam Rasul. Later it was the headquarters of the Maratha officers called Faujdars, and various parts of the town have names recalling their residence in it. The name of Bhaskarganj was so called after the Faujdar Bhaskar Pandit (1760 A. D.), Lala Kishore Rai is said to have founded the Lala Bazar near Barabati and to have built a Baraduari or twelve doored palace near that place; and Motiganj, now the centre of the town and the principal market place, was founded by Motiram (1785-90), while the last Maratha Faujdar Mayur Pandit lived on the side where the present Jagannath temple stands. The rest of the town was covered with jungle and shrubs. The main road that led to Puri, ran through the town by the Gadagadia tank and Phulwar Ghat. The town was lastly captured by the British in 1803 during the Maratha war.

Baleshwar contained some of the earliest European settlements established in Bengal. The first English factory was established by Ralph Cart-Wright in 1633 in response to an invitation by Mir Qusim, who is described as being "Governor of a town called Bollasorye, a sea-town where shipping was built", a great sea-town", as it is called elsewhere in Bruton's account, "whereto much shipping belonged and many ships and other vessels built". The prosperity of the port began to decline when the Gangetic Valley became the centre of British trade and Calcutta grew into the chief entrepot of commerce. The silting up of the river, also, aided its downfall; and as early as 1708, an English traveller, Captain Hamilton, found the river blocked by "a dangerous bar, sufficiently well-known by the many wrecks and losses made by it." During the next century, the river and the sea threw up several kilometres of new land, and the town, which in 1708 was only 7.5 km. as the crowflies, from the shore, is now about 12 km. away. The development of Falsepoint and Chandbali as minor ports and the advent of the railway still diminished the importance of the port.

The town contains several objects of antiquarian interest belonging to the Hindu, Muslim, Maratha and British periods. A tradition is current that the capital of the demon Banasura was established somewhere near the old town of Baleshwar. A great devotee of Siva, he installed 5 *lingas* around the present Baleshwar town. The Sivalinga bearing his name was installed in a temple in the eastern boundary of the town near the Farasidinga. The original temple was destroyed and on its foundation a new temple has been constructed. Besides the Baneswar Linga, there is another Linga in the town dedicated to Jhadeswar Mahadev. The temple built for this deity was completely dilapidated. The modern temple built on the foundation of the earlier one has also developed cracks due to the growth of vegetation and lack of preservation. A peculiar phenomenon associated with this *linga* is that when milk is poured over the *linga* it turns as clear as water.

The Jagannath temple of the town is believed to have been constructed by Mayur Pandit, the last Maratha Faujdar stationed at Baleshwar during the years 1800-1803 A. D.

The Shyama Sundar temple is located close to the Christian cemetery of Barabati area of the town. It is one of the leading Vaishnavite shrines of the town and is greatly attended by the devotees. The temple complex comprising the main shrine,

*antarala* and pillared *mandapa* appears to have been built in Gaudiya style of architecture and thickly plastered with lime mortar. The *mandapa* roof is supported by 12 pillars. The roof is formed of a series of inter-connected domes. The inner walls of the *mandapa* are represented with panels depicting the scenes from the Bhagavata Purana in stucco and bright colours. The Rasamandapa is located to the west of the main temple. The topmost part of this *mandapa* is adjoined with sixteen miniature temples arranged in two successive tiers. The Garuda pillar is erected to the south of the front apartment. The Chandi temple as well as the other miniature shrines in the premises are all built in bricks.

At Balighat there is a beautiful Jaina image of Ambika. This image was brought from a village situated near Sergar. The image is carved in *lalita* pose seated under a mango tree. She carries a baby on her left lap.

The image of Uma-Mahesvara, Yamaraj and the figure of a dancing girl are located under a tree at Manikhamba in the old town area. Ruins of a Stupa called Ushamedha in Sunhat area of the town is traditionally associated with the spot where Usha, the daughter of Banasura united in marriage with Aniruddha. A stone bridge known as the Maratha bridge on the third kilometre of the Khirachora Gopinath Mandir road to Remuna is believed to have been built by the early Hindu rulers of Orissa. Another object of interest in the town is the tank called Killa Pokhari. Formerly, there was a big fort ascribed to the Muslim period within which the tank was situated. In former days there was a fountain connected with this tank, traces of which are still extant. According to local tradition this tank was constructed by the orders of the Muslim Subedar Taqui Khan for the use of the ladies of his harem.

The Juma Masjid of the town was built under the orders of the emperor Aurangzeb. The three domes and the corner minarets of this mosque represent true characteristics of Mughal architecture. The Qadam Rasul or the Bhuja Khia Pir near Sunhat area was erected during the time of Taqui Khan. It contains a tomb. The edifice has been so named because a stone with footprints of the great Prophet Muhammad is fixed in one of its walls.

The Christian cemetery located in the Barabati area of the town is another centre of attraction. The memorials erected here were greatly mutilated. Several of these have been damaged

and from others, the brass and marble plaques containing the names of the deceased persons have been removed by the miscreants. The oldest memorial of the place was erected in 1684. Of a later date is the memorial erected in 1886 to the memory of Sir Henry Ricketts, one of the first and ablest Collectors of Baleshwar, with an inscription recording the fact that he served for twelve years in Orissa and that "he never forgot Balasore nor the Ooreas". The area has now been overgrown with wild bushes. The names of Thomas Betts, Margreto Isabella, Alfred Bond, Captain Francis Wallwer and Laura (the beloved sister of W. S. Dicken) are still to be found at the place.

In the premises of Fakir Mohan College is noticed a huge image of Padmapani Avalokitesvar and two images of Kartikeya and Lakulisa. The Avalokitesvar image though damaged still displays the conventional attribute of lotus in the left hand. The Kartikeya image is found seated on his mount, the peacock. The Lakulisa image is seated in Yogasana pose on a lotus pedestal. He carries a club on the left hand and displays Dharmachakra Pravartana Mudra against his chest. All the three images are built in chlorite stone.

Recently, a museum has been established in the Santikanan area of the town by the Department of Tourism, Sports and Culture of the Government of Orissa and is placed under the supervision of the Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneshwar. The museum is occupied with stone sculptures associated with all major cults of mediaeval Orissa. The cult icons include Mahisamardini Durga, Vishnu, Manasa, Saptamatruka, Gopinath, Ganesh, Yami, Avalokitesvar, Risabhanath and Boddhisattva. In addition to these icons, broken door-jambs of ancient temples, fragments of a few sculptures and an iron anchor have also been preserved in the museum. There is an inscription in the museum inscribed at a door lintel containing Saptamatruka figures in a standing posture. It was originally found from a ruined temple of Soro in the district. Here one can see the statue of Fakir Mohan Senapati, a great litterateur of Orissa.

The place contains many government offices, High English schools, colleges, mosques, churches, convent school, Reading rooms, District headquarters hospital, film houses, recreation centres, clubs, hotels and lodging houses, Circuit House, inspection bungalows, Rest shed, Post and Telegraph office, Telephone Exchange, Industrial Estate with many small and

medium industries, railway station, commercial banks, low-power T. V. centre and many other amenities of a modern town. The civic affairs of the town is managed by a municipality.

Population of the place in the Census of 1981 was 65,779 persons.

### **Baliapal**

Baliapal is a village in the north-east of the district headquarters situated on the Subarnarekha river. It comes under Basta Tahasil of Baleshwar subdivision. It is the granary of the district and is a centre of trade for betel-leaf and jute.

Recently, the Government of India have approved establishment of the National Instrument Test Range here as a national facility for launching missiles and rockets by the Ministry of Defence and Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) by the Department of Space. When established it will be the India's Cape Canaveral, major station for launching space vehicles, satellites and testing missiles.

As the area is thickly populated and quite fertile there is great resistance among the local people for establishing this defence project at this place. The project envisaged displacement of over 41,000 people living in the main range area of about 115 sq. km. Due to agitation of the people the original area taken over for setting up the Test Range was subsequently reduced to 68 sq. km. for the Range Head at Baliapal and the safety zone was brought down to 34 sq. km. in Bhograia area. All efforts are being made to ensure payment of adequate compensation for the acquired land of private individuals and ensure alternative benefits with facilities to the displaced persons. Adequate funds will be placed at the disposal of the State Government to put up suitable rehabilitation schemes for them.

According to V. S. Arunachalam, Senior Scientific Advisor to Government of India, Baliapal is ideally suited for setting up this National Instrument Test Range for missiles, satellites and rockets. The primary advantage from the scientific point of view is the semi-circular arc on which it is situated. This makes it possible to monitor progress of a launch down the coast. Nowhere else in the country is the location as ideally suited to put up monitoring stations for a close watch on progress of a rocket or a satellite. Unlike in Sriharikota, a direct launch is possible from Baliapal. The Orissa coast is also otherwise ideally suited because there are no offshore drilling or huge oil rigs to obstruct the path of missiles. The international air traffic by-passes this area and so do the

merchant shipping lines. The number of sunny days in the area is much more than in any other alternative site like the Andaman and Nicobar Islands or Sundarbans in West Bengal. But due to stiff agitation from the local people helped by various political parties the progress of establishment of this national project has been very slow. Since this National Test Range did not come up in time due to resistance of the people to evacuate them to the safety areas, Government of India decided to set up an Interim Test Range at Chandipur for setting up flight vehicles like Agni, Akash, Nag, etc., where Government land was available for immediate evaluation of flight vehicles.

It contains a police-station, an inspection bungalow, a dispensary, Community Development Block, Post and Telegraph office, a High English school and a mosque. A weekly market sits here every Monday. According to the 1981 Census the population was 790.

At Karatsal, 11 km. to the east of Baliapal, there are the remnants of an old fortress, now overgrown with jungle, attributed to a chief called Karat.

### **Bardhanpur**

The village Bardhanpur is situated at a distance of 11.2 km. from Baleshwar town. The place is famous for the Siva temple of Maninageshwar believed to have been installed by Banasura of epic fame. But the architectural features of the temple give adequate information that it was constructed in the 11th century A. D., by the Bhanja rulers. The original Maninageshwar temple was destroyed by the Mughals during their invasion on Orissa and it was later on repaired by one Bhagawan Das of Baleshwar town in 19th century A. D. Even after renovation it preserves broad aspects of the architectural design and sculptural arrangements of the original temple. The main temple is Pancharatha in design. The Jagamohan in front of the temple represents the features of a Pidha temple. The Nabagraha panel over the doorway of the Jagamohan is wrongly placed during the time of renovation. The doorway leading to the sanctum is made of granite with Gajasimha motifs carved below the door jambs and the Gajalaxmi figure at the centre of the top horizontal bar displays remarkable sculptural skill and architectural beauty. The door jambs and the horizontal bar are beautifully decorated with Naga motifs, scroll work and creepers laden with leaves and flowers. In the outer niches of the main temple images of Kartikeya and Parvati are installed as Parsvadevatas.

Population of the place in 1981 Census was 1,357 persons.

### **Basta**

Basta is a village in Baleshwar subdivision situated on the National Highway No. 5 at 29 km. north of Baleshwar. It is also connected by a railway station on the South Eastern railway. Near the railway station in a part of the village known as Rajnagar or Nagar are the remains of a building said to have been the residence of a Maratha chief. The village also contains the tomb of Shah Hussain Sahid who fell here during the Muslim invasion. There is a temple dedicated to Mahadev Baneswar.

It contains a police-station, inspection bungalow, Rest Shed, High English schools, one for boys and one for girls, Primary Health Centre, C. T. Training school, Post Office, Block Development Office and Tahasil Office.

Population of the place in 1981 Census was 658 persons.

### **Bhadrak**

Bhadrak is a town and headquarters of the subdivision of the same name, situated in  $21^{\circ} 3' N.$  and  $86^{\circ} 31' E.$ , on the bank of the river Salandi. The town derives its name from the goddess Bhadrakali, whose temple stands at 8 km. from the town. It is an important railway station of the district and large-scale transactions are carried on here daily. It is also an important commercial centre of the district. It is situated on the National Highway No. 5. Buses ply regularly from here to different places of the district.

A large gathering takes place at the temple of Kali during Kali Puja every year which is observed quite ceremoniously. The temple of Sainthia in the adjoining village of that name contains a portion of the quilt of Shri Chaitanya, who is said to have left it by the side of the old Trunk Road during his travels in Orissa. It is regarded as relic of great sanctity by the Vaishnavites.

Mughal Tamasa was a unique form of folk drama written and staged by Bansiballabh Goswami at Bhadrak during sixteenth century. It was a type of farcical or satirical play depicting the decadent life-style and maladministration of the Mirjas (the Afghan Jagirdars), their courtiers and menials. These Tamasas were also called Chaiti Tamasa as they were enacted towards the end of the month of Chaitra (March—April) in open-air pandal in front of Siva temple.

The town contains Government offices, High English schools both for boys and girls, colleges for men and women, police-station, inspection bungalow, Rest Shed, hotels and lodges,

commercial banks, public library, railway station, film house, Industrial Estate, Charge Chrome Plant, hospital, church, mosques, daily market, Post and Telegraph office and Telephone Exchange. It is also S. E. Railways district headquarters. The civic affairs of the town are managed by a municipality.

Population of the town in 1981 Census was 60,600 persons.

### **Bhadrakali**

The village Bhadrakali is situated at a distance of 8 km. from Bhadrak town. The place is important for the Goddess Bhadrakali installed in an old temple, recently renovated. The deity is usually kept under the coverage of heavy costumes. The goddess is four-armed, seated in *lalita* pose on a lotus pedestal. Her mount, the lion is placed on the pedestal. She carries a baby on the left lap and brandishes a sword in one of her right hands. An inscription on a stone slab was recovered from this place which indicates that in the 8th regnal year of Maharaja Surasarma a pious lady named Renghali donated some objects to the goddess Varnadevati by a special arrangement with Mahakulapati Agnisarma. The date of the inscription has been assigned to the 3rd century A. D. on palaeographical grounds. It has been preserved in the epigraphic gallery of the Jayadev Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneswar. The Jagannath temple inside the campus of Bhadrakali temple has been removed by the joint venture of the Orissa State Archaeology and the Endowment Department of the Government of Orissa.

Bhimpur is situated on the sea shore at a distance of 12.8 km. to the south-east of Baleshwar town. The village is famous for the Chamunda image popularly worshipped as Bhimadevi or Kalika. Most probably the place has derived its name after this deity. The deity is eight-armed and round her neck has a garland of human skulls and on the head a crown of matted hair. She is seated on a lotus on the prostrate body of an Apasmara Purusha. Two elephants have been represented on both sides of the prostrate body.

A few Jaina Tirthankara images have been discovered during the clearance of the debris. A beautiful image of Mahavira was unearthed from this village and removed to Baleshwar town by the then zamindar, Baikunthanath Deb. Besides, there is another image of Tirthankara which is worshipped as *thakurani* by the people. This shows that Jainism was at one time widely prevalent in the locality.



Big images of Avalokitesvar and Buddha in meditative pose have also been found in village Kasaba situated in the neighbourhood of Bhimpur. These figures have been removed later to Baleshwar town. On the bank of an ancient tank of this village there is a large stone wall and a broken image of Buddhist Tara which goes to prove that the place was once under the influence of Mahayana School of Art. Mounds of earth and many old tanks are seen in various parts of the village.

### Chandaneswar

Chandaneswar is situated in Bhograi police-station of Baleshwar subdivision. It is 88 km. from Baleshwar by road. Bus communication is available from Baleshwar and Jaleshwar. The nearest railhead is Jaleshwar. It is also 8 km. from Digba in West Bengal and can be approached by jeep. Situated amidst a beautiful natural setting, the virgin beach Chandaneswar is a place of attraction for the visitors. One can observe with wonder the glittering glory of the beach at sun-rise and sun-set. On the tranquil beach stands the shrine of Lord Chandaneswar. During Nila Parba, a local festival, which falls in the month of Chaitra (March-April) pilgrims from neighbouring places visit the shrine and a great *mela* takes place. On the day of Sivaratri thousands of devotees from different parts of Orissa and West Bengal congregate here for worshipping Lord Siva. (Also please see Huguli about the temple and the deity Chandaneswar Mahadev).

There is a Revenue Rest Shed and a forest bungalow.

### Chandbali

Chandbali is situated on the left bank of the Baitarani river, 13 km. west of its confluence with the Brahmani and 32 km. from its mouth, in  $20^{\circ} 47' N.$ , and  $86^{\circ} 45' E.$  It owes its existence to the enterprise of Captain Mc Neill who sailed up the Dhamara with T. E. Ravenshaw, the then Commissioner of Orissa, with the object of discovering a suitable site for a port. Chandbali which was then a small village occupied by a few fishermen's huts, was found to combine the advantages of high position free from all risks of inundation and sufficient depth of water in immediate proximity to the river bank. Captain Mc Neill obtained a lease for a small area of land by arrangement with the local zamindar. Subsequently, Government recognizing the advantage of the site, acquired an area of 72.4389 hectares (179 acres) which formed the Chandbali Khas Mahal. The lands leased to Captain Mc Neill eventually passed

into the hands of the India General Steam Navigation Company and Messrs. Mc Neill and Co., to whom leases were granted by Government in 1877.

Chandbali was the most important port of Orissa, though its trade diminished since the opening of the railway. The exports consisted mainly of rice, and the chief imports were cotton twist, piece-goods, kerosene oil, salt and gunny bags. The value of the exports in 1905-06 was Rs. 33.5 lakhs and of the imports Rs. 28.5 lakhs. The trade in commodities was supplemented by a considerable passenger traffic and in 1905-06, the steamers of the India General Steam Navigation and Railway Company and the Rivers Steam Navigation Company, brought 41,500 passengers while 40,800 passengers left the port.

With the advent of railway and opening of road communication the port lost its importance. Now the major portion of the trade is carried on by Bhadrak railway station which is situated at a distance of 52 km. Goods are also exported and imported by roadway.

Goddess Dakesvari is installed in a temple and is widely revered by the sea faring people. The image of Dakesvari is a representation of twelve-armed Mahisamardini Durga. In the premises of the Dakesvari temple there are a few archaeological remains including Buddhist Avalokitesvara, Jaina Tirthankara and Brahminical goddesses.

There are college, High English schools, daily market, dispensary, Block Development Office, Tahasil Office, inspection bungalows, Post and Telegraph Office, commercial banks and a few Government offices.

Population of the place in 1981 Census was 7,809 persons.

### **Chandipur**

Chandipur is a village in Baleshwar subdivision situated in 21° 27' N., and 87° 2' E., on the sea coast about 14.5 km. east of Baleshwar town and 3.2 km. from the mouth of the Burhabalanga river. For a long time during the East India Company period the European residents including the Collector of Baleshwar had been in the habit of spending a part of the summer in this place as their summer residence because Baleshwar town though near the sea, there was and is sensible difference between the climate of the station and that of the seashore.

Because of its proximity to Calcutta there is an inflow of visitors to enjoy the sea-beach at Chandipur and most of them prefer to stay in the Panthanivas (Tourist lodge) set up by the Orissa Tourism Development Corporation amidst casuarina groves. The Government servants prefer to stay in the P. W. D. Inspection Bungalow or the Forest I. B. both of which are also situated on the seashore near the Panthanivas. For convenience of low and middle income groups a lot of hotels and lodging facilities have come up.

The beach is long and levelled and sea bathing is possible in the absence of surf. This is one of the unique places in the country where the sea water recedes to a distance of 5 to 7 km. from the seashore due to the shallowness of the sea. The open beach without water encourages the tourists to walk into the sea up to a distance of 5 km. Surrounded by casuarina trees it presents a glamorous and scenic view to the tourists. Chandipur might easily develop into a fashionable sea-side resort for week-end visitors. Large quantities of excellent fish are caught here at the mouth of the river which are mostly exported to Calcutta. The Fishery Department have set up an ice plant, cold storage and a Fishermen Training Centre and a Co-operative Society of Fishermen here for facilitating capture, storage and marketing of sea fish. Population of this place according to the 1981 Census was 1150 persons.

The place first came into prominence in 1894 when the Ordnance Proof Department opened a sea range here for testing its fire arms on its long levelled coast.

Recently, the place got into national and international prominence due to successful launching of the Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (I. R. B. M.) "Agni" from the Interim Test Range at Chandipur on 22nd May 1989 by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (D. R. D. O.). It is called Interim because the National Range Project at Baliapal could not come up in time for the testing of flight vehicles. It was not strictly a missile in the true sense as it did not carry any explosive as its pay-load. It is better called test-vehicle "Agni". It was a surface to surface missile. Its weight was 14.2 tons, had a height of 19 metres with 1 metre diameter and a range of 1500 km. It was a two-stage vehicle carrying pay-load to the target with indigenously developed sub-systems and components. This launching of "Agni" is a successful culmination of the development of a part of the Integrated Guided Missile Programme of the Defence Department which started in 1983. A large number of Defence and National R & D laboratories, universities and academic institutions, public and private sector undertakings took part in this successful venture.

The success of this long range "Agni" missile project was followed by another short range missile "Akash" (a missile from surface to air) which was launched from Chandipur on 14th August 1990. Its range was 15 to 25 km. Thereafter India's first indigenous third generation anti-tank missile "Nag" was successfully flight-tested at Chandipur on 29th November 1990. Its range was 4 to 5 km. Prior to launching of "Agni" another short range missile of 14 to 15 km. range "Trishul" (both surface to surface and surface to air) said to be Indian version of the American anti-missile "Patriot", was successfully tested during March 1987.

Thereafter a modern and sophisticated missile "Prithvi" was launched from here on 5th May 1992. It is a mobile-launched medium range missile. It has a range of 250 km. with 250 kg. of warhead. If the warhead weight is increased to 1,000 kg. the range will be reduced to 150 km. It is mounted on a eight wheeled truck manufactured under license by the Bharat Heavy Movers Limited (B. E. M. L.), Bangalore. The successful launch of this improved indigenous surface to surface missile has reiterated India's Defence Scientist's capability for national defence preparedness.

### Charampa

Charampa is an important commercial centre of the district and is located on the National Highway No. 5 near Bhadrak. The place has yielded a large hoard of Jaina images of which four have been shifted to the Jayadev Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneswar for preservation. The site of discovery of these sculptures is located on the eastern bank of the Rahania tank, also locally known as Barala Pokhari. It is the largest tank of the area comprising about twenty acres of land which is now filled with weeds. At present there is one Parsvanath image at the site which represents similar pattern of execution with the other four *tirthankara* images shifted to the Jayadev Orissa State Museum. A canopy of seven-hooded snake is found over its head.

In addition to the above noted sculptures an image of Ambika, the *sasanadevi* of Neminath, is worshipped as *gramadevati* on an open *mandap* of the village. This image was recovered from the tank during the time of renovation. In the middle of the village there are a number of Brahminical divinities kept on an another open *mandap*. The images of Karttikeya and Mahisamardini Durga of this group are in a fair state of preservation. The villagers worship them under the name of Pathara Santani. God Hanuman is also worshipped in the Hanuman temple located here.

### **Dhamnagar**

Dhamnagar is a village in the south of the Bhadrak subdivision, situated 22.5 km. south-east of Bhadrak. The name is probably a corruption of Dharmanagar, a designation given to the village because in the time of the independent Hindu kings of Orissa it contained a great Hindu monastery, presided over by an ascetic who gave alms to pilgrims on the road to Jajpur and Puri.

There are police-station, Post Office, college, High English school, dispensary, Tahasil Office, Sub-Registrar's Office, Block Development Office and market.

Population of the place in the Census of 1981 was 4,232 persons.

### **Dhamara**

Dhamara is 24 km. downstream from Chandbali on the mouth of the river Baitarani and approachable by motor launch. Recently, an all-weather road (48 km. in length) has been constructed connecting Dhamara with Basudebpur to facilitate transportation of fish from the recently constructed fishing harbour at Dhamara. Being the confluence of river Baitarani and Brahmani with the sea at Chandinipal it has a special appeal for the tourist's loving thrill and adventure. Once an important port of Orissa, it lost its importance with the advent of railway and silting up the river mouth.

Presently, the port is chiefly used for fishing purpose. A two hundred metres long and eight metres wide landing quay has been constructed to facilitate loading and unloading of fish from trawlers. The minimum depth at the quay is two metres at the lowest tide level. Sheds have been constructed for auction as well as for packing of fishes in ice for transportation. An ice factory has been set up in the private sector. The port has its own piped water supply system for supplying drinking water. A boat repairing yard with a slipway and transfer track has been built for repairing boats, trawlers and other floating vessels. A small workshop has also been set up for repairing the machineries of the port.

The lighthouse at Shortt's Island at about 20 km. from Dhamara which was put to use in 1888 as a navigational aid, has been disused since long. So, port signal and storm warning stations have been constructed at Dhamara and Chandinipal.

There are High English school, Post Office, inspection bungalow and a weekly market.

### Eram

Eram in Basudebpur police-station of the district stands as a testimony to the spirit of national struggle which the common people had developed through the final phase of the Gandhian Movement. The most tragic event of the August Revolution of 1942 took place here, where the tragedy of the nature of Jallianwalla Bagh was enacted killing the largest number of men at any single place in any single repressive measure in the whole of India. Here, the police party opened fire on the unarmed villagers and killed 29 persons on the spot.

A detailed account on the incidence has been given in Chapter II (History).

Population of the place in the Census of 1981 was 2,521 persons.

### Gandivedha

Gandivedha village near Soro was brought to light during the course of recovery of a large hoard of copper coins. These coins (147 in number) are now preserved in the Jayadev Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneswar. On one side of these coins there is the emblem of a couchant bull and on the other side there is a line of writing mentioning "Sri Nandasya". The Oriya inscription on a stone image (10th-11th century A.D.) and the Surya image inscription (11th century A.D.) were recovered from this place. Besides, a number of stone sculptures belonging to the Brahmanical pantheon, viz., Surya, Ganesh, Kartikeya, Parvati, Mahisamardini Durga and Vishnu are found in this village.

### Garapada

Garapada is a village in Basta police-station of Baleshwar subdivision, situated 24 km. north of Baleshwar. It contains the residence of a respectable family of zamindars, the Bhuiyas of Garapada, who are said to have in their possession a copper-plate grant of an estate granted to them in 1503 A.D., by Raja Purusottam Dev, the area originally granted being 1438 *batis* or 11395.9859 hectares. The village contains the tomb of Hitam Khan Shahid, one of the Muslim Captains who fell here in a battle fought by the invading army. At Ramachandrapur, a few kilometers to the south, there is the tomb of another Muslim Commander, Muhammad Khan Shahid. It was here that Mir Habib, the treacherous Dewan of Murshid Quli Khan (the Mughal Viceroy in Orissa) met his death some years after he invited the Marathas to invade the province. He was charged by Janoi, the Maratha General, with embezzlement during his occupation of the country in 1751, and

was made a prisoner in his camp at Garapada. Mir Habib with a few followers attempted to escape but was cut to pieces by the guard. The place where Habib's camp was pitched is a small area still known as Habibganj.

Population of Garapada in 1981 Census was 175 persons.

### Gohiratikiri

Gohiratikiri is located at a distance of about 8 km. from Jajpur in Cuttack district and close to Kharipada in this district where a series of Buddhist icons datable to the Bhaumakara period have been discovered. A large stretch of vacant land has been identified as the battle ground where Mukunda Deva, the last Hindu ruler of Orissa, lost his life in 1568 A. D.

### Guamal

Guamal, a village in Tihiri police-station of Bhadrak subdivision, is famous for the Kumareswar Mahadev temple. The temple facing west stands close to the paddy field at the end of the village.

The temple complex consists of a *rekha deula* and an open Mukhamandap. The roof of the *Mukhamandap* has collapsed. The approximate height of the temple is 15.24 metres (50 feet) from the ground level. Due to heavy plastering of the outer surface of the temple it is not possible to see the architectural design and the decorative art. A *padukanala*, a large-sized bull and many decorative fragments of the temple are preserved in the premises of the temple area. A large piece of stone depicting a Gajasimha motif and another containing an erotic scene are lying near a tree in front of the temple. The inner and outer walls of the Jagamohan preserve figures of Bamana, Baraha, Yama and a few other Brahminical divinities. An inscription containing three lines on a piece of stone is fixed in the inner wall of the Jagamohan. The door-jambs of the sanctum are fashioned with figures of Ganga and Yamuna on their respective mounts. The temple has been brought under the conservation programme of the Orissa State Archaeology, Bhubaneswar.

Population of the place in the Census 1981 was 3,381 persons.

### Huguli

Huguli is a village in Baleshwar subdivision, situated 17 km. east of Baliapal near the sea in the extreme north-east corner of the district. It is famous for the Chandaneswar Mahadev temple

built in Gaudiya style with a series of dome-shaped chambers. The zamindar of Panchetgarh took initiative and built the present shrine through the financial assistance of the local people. This deity is widely revered not only by the local people but also by the devotees of the neighbouring villages of West Bengal. During the later half of the *Chaitra* month (March-April) large number of devotees flock to this place to become *bhoktas*. They observe serious penance for the whole period with the hope of getting children and for being cured from chronic diseases. A large *Yatra*, called *Chadaka*, is held here annually during this period.

### Inchudi

Inchudi is a village, situated 19 km. from Baleshwar town. It is famous for the historic Salt Satyagrah of 1930. It is said that the success of mass civil disobedience against Salt Laws occupied the second place in India after Dandi in Gujarat where Mahatma Gandhi himself led the movement. The participation of several women in the Inchudi campaign and the spread of the campaign to other places in the coastal belt of Orissa were regarded by the then Congress High Command as the highlight of the movement.

A detailed account about the incidence of Salt Satyagraha at Inchudi has been given in Chapter II (History).

### Jaleshwar

Jaleshwar is a town in the north-west of Baleshwar subdivision, situated 21°49' N. and 87°13' E., on the left bank of the Subarnarekha, 19 km. from its mouth. It lies on the National Highway No. 5. It is connected to the railway station by a 3 km. long road. Historically, Jaleshwar is one of the most interesting places in the district. It gave its name to one of the *sarkars* into which the Mughals divided Orissa, including a large part of Midnapur, and it was for a long time an important frontier fortress. In the neighbourhood of Jaleshwar occurred in the year 1575 the great battle of Mughalmari (the Mughal slaughter) in which the Afghans under Daud Khan, the ruler of Bengal met the Mughals under Munim Khan, Akbar's General. The armies met on the north bank of the Subarnarekha near the village of Tukaroi at a place running westward for some 10 km. from Jaleshwar. After a hotly contested fight, the Afghans, in spite of the interpid charges of their cavalry, were routed, but the Mughals suffered so severely that they were unable to pursue, and halted five days in the field of battle to bury their dead, see to their wounded and recover their strength. In 1592, a second great battle was fought in the neighbourhood on the northern bank of the Subarnarekha between



the Afghans and the imperial troops under Man Singh, the former being again defeated, the Mughals took possession of Jaleshwar. From this time Jaleshwar was held by an imperial garrison, and did not come into prominence till the time of the Maratha invasions when its exposed position made it constantly liable to attack. Local tradition asserts that the skirmish took place in the quarter of Jaleshwar now known as Patna bazar or Kampu bazar.

There are still the remains of a large fortress, which is said to have extended over 20.7192 sq. km. (8 square miles). It was divided into two parts joined by a drawbridge, and was surrounded by ramparts of earth and stone with seven concentric ditches. The latter have been filled up and cultivated and the earthen ramparts have disappeared, but the stone ramparts remain still. The buildings inside are all in a dilapidated condition. The village also contains an old mosque said to have been built by a Nawab in the 16th century A. D. Jaleshwar used to be a trade centre of some importance, and in Hamilton's Hindostan it is mentioned as one of the three principal places in Midnapur. The English at one time had a factory there, of which no trace is left. There are temples dedicated to Jagannath, Satyanarayan and Kali. Poet Dina Krushna Das lived here about 350 years ago.

There are police-station, hospital, High English school, college, Post and Telegraph Office, Tahasil Office, Block Development Office, Sub-Registrar's Office, Veterinary dispensary, Regional Marketing Society, inspection bungalow, commercial bank, hotels, railway station and market.

The civic affairs of the town are managed by a Notified Area Council.

Population of the place in the Census of 1981 was 13,146.

### **Jayarampur**

Jayarampur in Bhograi police-station of Baleshwar subdivision came into prominence in 1960 by the discovery of a copper plate inscription of Maharajadhiraja Gopachandra. The copper plate inscription was discovered while excavating a mound in the village situated in a place called Ahutikunda. Besides the inscription, huge quantities of old bricks, a female image made of granite and a votive bronze Buddha figure were discovered from this place. The copper plate inscription and the votive bronze Buddha figure have been lodged in the Jayadev Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneswar. The inscription contains fifty lines on the whole on both sides of the plate. The seal contains a defaced figure of bull. Palaeographically

this inscription may be assigned to the 5th-6th centuries A. D. It is an important document so far as the history of Orissa and Bengal is concerned.

Population of the place in the Census of 1981 was 3,546 persons.

### **Kasiari**

About 3.2 km. to the south of Mughalmari the famous shrine of Gaganeswar Siva and about 1.6 km. to the north of it, is situated the ancient village Kasiari. The place was prosperous in the early period. On one side of the village as noted above is located the shrine dedicated to Gaganeswar Siva and on the other the shrine of goddess Sarbamangala.

The most notable remnants of the ruins of Gaganeswar Siva temple is its enclosure built in red sandstones. Inside the enclosure at the eastern extremity is the temple. It is about 200 cubits in length and 150 cubits in breadth. The Oriya inscription found on its western wall has been badly defaced. Near by, there is a mosque containing an inscription written in Persian language. From this inscription it is learnt that it was built by Muhammad Taher in 1082 Hira.

The Sarbamangala Devi of this place is greatly revered by the people of the adjacent villages of Orissa as well as West Bengal. The presiding deity represents a form of Gouri and is carved with two hands. She is seated on a spirited lion. The original temple of Sarbamangala was razed to the ground by the Muslims. But, subsequently, a ruler of Orissa constructed the present temple with its Jagamohan.

### **Kaupur**

Kaupur is a village in Bhadrak police-station, situated 13 km. north-west of Bhadrak town. It is ascertained from the *punjha* records preserved in the Orissa State Archives, Bhubaneswar, that the ancestors of the zamindars of Kaupur came to Bhadrak during the time of Murshid Quli Khan, in the early part of 18th century A. D.

The place abounds with a rich collection of stone sculptures ranging from 7th to 13th century A. D. In the niches of the walls of a small modern brick-built house on the bank of river Salandi are lodged seven stone sculptures of which three are Uma-Maheswar two are Surya images and one each of Garuda and Ganesh. Some of these are in good state of preservation exhibiting their high standard of workmanship. Except for some minor differences both

the Surya images are designed alike. In front of them there is an image of Garuda. This is an unique specimen of Garuda in view of the fact that Garuda in Yogasana pose on a lotus pedestal has not been reported elsewhere in Orissa so far. Garuda images of mediaeval Orissa were normally designed as seated, kneeling in right knee with folded hands, hooked nose and spread-out wings. So the image of Garuda of Kaupur possibly belongs to an earlier period. Of the three Uma-Maheswar images, the first one is in a good state of preservation. The second image of Uma-Maheswar is much damaged. The third image of Uma-Maheswar is carved seated in *lalitasana* pose facing to the front.

In another part of the village are found two images kept under a tree of which one is Narasimha incarnation of Vishnu. It has terrific look with two long teeth protruding out on two sides. The wig type curling hair of the figure is noteworthy. In another portion of the village a few images of the Brahminical pantheon are kept. There is a fine image of Tara of the Buddhist pantheon lying under a tree by the side of the road leading to the village. Standing on a lotus pedestal she displays *varada mudra* in the right hand while the left hand is placed over a female attendant standing closely with a lotus stalk. To the right, a devotee is seen in *anjali hasta*. Five Dhyani Buddha figures are carved in a row at the top.

Close to the village on the dry sandy bed of Salandi, there is a spring called Debarkunda which is regarded as sacred. At Daisingh, one kilometre to the east on the Salandi, there is a garh called Bhimagada. Inside the river there is Bhima Chola consisting of three pillars.

At Kaupur, there are maternity and child welfare centre, post office and a weekly market which sits on every Monday. Population of the place in 1981 Census was 2,321 persons.

### **Kharipada**

Kharipada in Dhamnagar police-station of Bhadrak subdivision is a famous site of old Mahayanic cult. A few colossal and life size images of Buddha and Bodhisattva have been recovered from this place and preserved in the Jayadev Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneswar. A number of such images are still lying in the locality inside the mounds of debris. This indicates that there was a Buddhist Stupa at the site when Buddhism was in its glorious form. Gohra-tikiri, a site in the close neighbourhood of Kharipada was identified by some scholars as the capital of the Bhaumakaras. Solampur, another prominent Buddhist site of the district is situated at a distance of 11 km. from this place.

The two colossal Buddha images of Kharipada preserved in the Jayadev Orissa State Museum are noted for the peculiar style in which they are built. The Buddha image that is seated in Bhumi-parasamudra reveals richness of plastic art with broad shoulders, long and rounded hands, smooth breast and fleshy chins. It is around 1.8288 metres (six feet) in height and has solidity and weight. Its slim waist and thick chest as well as the straight neck impart to it a vigorous look. The other Buddha statue in the preaching posture is less artistic than the one referred above, but built more ingeniously. The gestures of the hands indicating the turning of the Wheel of Law are imperfectly carved with little artistic merit.

The Padmapani Avalokitesvar image bearing the inscription of the time of Subhakaradeva I of Bhaumakara dynasty is carved standing on a double petalled lotus pedestal. Of the two hands, the right one is broken and the left one holds the stem of the lotus flower. The face and the right leg are badly damaged. The inscription incised on the side of the slab in the characters of the 8th-9th century A. D., records the gift of the image by Rahularuchi, the Mahamandalacharya and Paramaguru, i.e., the teacher of the great division and the supreme preceptor during the time of Subhakaradeva I, the celebrated patron of Mahayana Buddhism.

Population of the place in the Census of 1981 was 820 persons.

### **Kuldiha**

Kuldiha is a famous hunting ground high above the hills amidst the reserved forests. It is 16 km. from Nilagiri town, of which 5 km. is pucca road and the rest 11 km. is forest road. The place is cool round the year. The fort, Harichandangarh, contains ruins of an old fort.

There is an inspection bungalow of the Forest Department of the Government of Orissa. Population of the place in 1981 Census was 173 persons.

### **Kumbhargari**

Kumbhargari or Bhusandeswar, a village situated between the Bay of Bengal and the Subarnarekha river in Bhograi area of the district is noted for the worship of Bhusandeswar Sivalinga. In the rainy season it is difficult to approach the place. In summer season people usually visit the place in large numbers for worship. The Sivalinga is made of well polished black chlorite stone and is designed in three separate sections. The total height of the Linga is about 3.6576 metres (twelve feet). The upper most part measuring about 1.2192 metres (four feet) in cylindrical shape contains a line of carving which the local people consider as the

sacred thread of the deity. The middle portion measuring about 1.2192 metres (four feet) is in octagonal shape. The lower portion, i.e., the base of the Sivalinga is in square plan. The circumference of the *sakti* is about 9.144 metres (30 feet) with spout to the south. The stone *vedi* originally fitted to the *linga* measure 1.8288 metres (six feet) in each side and its depth is 0.6096 metre (2 feet) at the most. This has now been removed from the original place and preserved in a thatched shed to the west of the Sivalinga. The Sivalinga which was lying on the ground due to repeated floods of the Subarnarekha river was brought to position in 1965 by a Hindu devotee. He also cleared the surrounding jungle for the convenience of the worshippers. The area around the Sivalinga is now under cultivation.

The striking feature of this Sivalinga is its colossal size which can be compared with the Sivalinga in the temple of Bhaskareswar in Bhubaneswar. Makara Sankranti is observed here with much pomp and ceremony.

### Kupari

Kupari is a village in Bhadrak subdivision, situated 67 km. south-west of Baleshwar town and 29 km. south-west of Soro. John Beams visited the site when he was the Collector of Baleshwar and informed of its Buddhist monuments and images. The Neulpur copper plate inscription of King Subhakaradeva I mentions about the place and the hills that stands close to it. The place is interesting for the distinct traces of Buddhist relics that are still observable. It stands in a level plain surrounded on three sides by low rocky hills. The ruins stand on the north side of the village, the more important and better preserved portion being situated in the middle of the flat laterite surface, but other parts are found in the softer soil among trees. These ruins exhibit the traces of an ancient Buddhist temple and *vihar* or monastery, with a grove intervening. Going westwards over a space encumbered by half-buried debris, one comes to the best preserved portion of the remains, a long narrow hall with a sort of propylaeum on the eastern side surrounded by pillars. To the north of this is a small tank with steps leading down to it. The inscription on the back of the image of Mayadevi would refer the building in which it was found, to the 10th century A. D.

At the foot of the hills close by are the remains of a large fort of mud. High up on the hill side is a cave temple called Bharua Devi, a name probably corrupted from Bhairava, as that of an adjoining cave, Basuti, is probably from Basuki,

There is a Revenue Rest Shed and a college. Population of the place in 1981 Census was 2,183 persons.

## Manikchak

The village Manikchak in Jaleshwar area of the district is known for two Jaina relics of which one is the image of Santinath and the other a *chaumukha*. Both the relics have been shifted to the Jayadev Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneswar, for preservation. The image Santinath with deer as the conventional mount has a canopy of five-hooded snake over head; a peculiar feature unnoticed elsewhere. For the presence of snake canopy some scholars associate the image with Parsvanath. It stands on a double petalled lotus pedestal flanked by *chauri* bearers. Figures of eight *grahas* are carved seated in Yogasana pose on the side.

The other relic, a Jaina Chaumukha, discovered from this place is designed in the shape of a miniature *pidha* shrine. The *pidhas* numbering five are arranged in gradual receding pattern, intervened by supporting lions on corners. The crowning element consists of a *amalaka* and *khapuri*. The pinnacle, *kalasa* is designed like a lotus bud. In the outer niches of the four sides of the *chaumukha* are placed the nude Tirthankara figures of Mahavir Santinath, Risavanath and Chandraprava in standing posture.

The village, Martasal is situated in the close neighbourhood of Manikchak which has also yielded Jaina antiquities of immense value. People in the neighbouring villages also often come across ancient relics at the time of cultivation, digging of wells, renovation of tanks, construction of houses, etc., which connotes that the place was once a flourishing centre of Jainism.

## Markona

Markona is situated on the National Highway No. 5 between Bhadrak and Baleshwar. Kanheivindha, a small hamlet located in the close neighbourhood of Markona preserves a unique ten-armed Mahisamardini Durga image of 12th century A. D. in a modern built *pidha* temple. The deity holds in her five right hands sword, spear, arrow, short spear and disc; and her five left hands display attributes like bowl, Parasu, goad, snake and shield. The deity as depicted is engaged in serious fight with Mahisasura with a curved sword in right hand and a shield in the left hand. A short dagger is firmly attached to his waist belt. The demon in human form is shown coming out of the decapitated body of the buffalo. Lion, the conventional mount of goddess Durga is seen pouncing upon the demon. She has placed her right leg on the lion.

At Markona, there are rice mills, Primary Health Centre, police-station, Post Office, railway station, High English school, college, and Revenue Rest Shed.

Population of the place in the Census of 1981 was 1,570 persons.

### Nangaleswar

Nangaleswar is a village in Singla police-station of Baleshwar subdivision situated 29 km. north-west of Baleshwar town. It derives its name from Langaleswar, i.e., the God of Plough, the legend being that Siva cultivated 647·4992 hectares of land there, which to the present day is called 'Sivaputha'. The temple is 7·62 metres (25 feet) high but the Sivalinga is not visible on the Saktipitha. Probably, the Sivalinga was removed from the Saktipitha in a later period by some miscreants. On the walls of the temple are engraved the figures of Surya, Uma-Maheswar, Mahisamardini Durga and Ganesh. A beautifully carved bull has been installed in front of the entrance of the temple. On the day of Sivaratri, in February, a big *mela* is held here in honour of the deity.

Population of the place in 1981 Census was 1,736 persons.

### Narendrapur

The village Narendrapur on the way to Chandbali from Bhadrak is famous for the remnants of archaeological interest. A huge image of Barahi, as large as the one preserved in the premises of the Subdivisional Officer quarters at Jajpur in Cuttack district, is the presiding deity of the place. Besides, it has several Sivalingas and ruined shrines. A tradition current in the locality reveals that beautiful Sivalingas were exported to South-East Asian countries from there through Dhamara port. To substantiate this tradition even now we find large hoards of Sivalingas in various shapes and sizes, lying scattered in and around the village. Goddess Patamangala of this village attracts large number of devotees from the surrounding area. Goddess Dakeswari of Chandbali and Goddess Dhamara appear to have some connection in the past with Goddess Patamangala.

### Nilagiri

Nilagiri, situated 21°20' lat. and 86°25' long, was the headquarters of the ex-state of Nilagiri and now the headquarters of a subdivision of the same name. Regular bus communication facility is available to this place from Baleshwar and Bhadrak. The nearest railway station is Nilagiri Road, situated at a distance of 11 km., but there is no bus service. So, for all practical purposes Baleshwar is the nearest railway station though situated at a distance of 22 km. The Jagannath temple constructed before the Muslim occupation of Orissa is the oldest temple of the place. Besides it contains several other religious edifices known as the Mausima temple, Tarakeswar Siva temple, Mangala temple, Gauranga temple

and the Mahanta Math. The Jagannath temple situated near the place of the ex-ruler of Nilagiri is in a fairly good state of preservation. The Viman and the Jagamohan are built in *pidha* style and thoroughly plastered. In the sanctum sanctorum images of Lord Jagannath, Balabhadra and Subhadra are placed over a big masonry pedestal.

The Garuda pillar has been installed in the Jagamohan. In front of the Jagamohan is a pillared chamber. The inner walls of the *mandap* are decorated with remarkable execution of stucco works representing Dasabatar, Gajaxmi, Ganesh, Karttikeya and several male and female figures painted in different colours. The premises is surrounded with high compound walls. Within the premises are noticed the dilapidated kitchen room and several other subsidiary shrines.

The Mausima temple built in the Bengal style of architecture is located at a distance of 1 km. from Jagannath temple. During the annual car festival the three deities, Lord Jagannath, Balabhadra and Subhadra, used to come here in a big chariot and stay till the commencement of their Bahuda Yatra, (the return journey) to the main temple.

The car festival of Lord Jagannath is the most important event of the place. Visitors from all over the district and Udala subdivision of Mayurbhanj district come to witness the festival.

There is a weekly twice market which sits here on every Tuesday and Saturday. The chief commodities in transaction are rice, stone utensils, tussar, Mahula, cotton, resin, tamarind and minor forest products. There are co-operative societies of carpentry, blacksmithy and stone works.

There are Post and Telegraph Office, High English schools (one for boys and one for girls), hospital, inspection bungalow, police-station, Block Development Office, commercial bank, Land Development Bank, jail, sub-treasury, veterinary hospital and subdivisional Government offices.

Population of the place in 1981 Census was 2,445 persons.

### Orangi

Orangi is situated at a distance of 2 km. from Haldipada railway station and 7 km. from Baleshwar town. The National Highway No. 5 passes through this place. The place is famous for Bagha Jatin, a martyr of freedom struggle who was fired by the British



soldiers and succumbed to death on the 10th September 1915. Every year on 10th September people observe the death anniversary of Bagha Jatin. There is a statue of the martyre in open air inside the campus of Bagha Jatin High English School.

### **Paliabindha**

Paliabindha is a small village located at a distance of 6.4 km. from Dolasahi of Bhadrak subdivision and is famous for a temple dedicated to God Biranchinarayan. The original temple was broken and was restored recently by the local people. Two door jambs of the eastern doorway which might have originally belonged to a Siva temple have been affixed by mistake in the present temple at the time of renovation. The sculptures and carvings of the door jambs are similar to the Siva temples found at Bhubaneshwar in Puri district and Khiching in Mayurbhanj district belonging to the 10th-11th centuries A. D. Inside the temple is installed the image of Sun God, popularly known as Viranchinarayan. On a square sized stone altar slightly tapering towards the top are carved four images of the Sun God on the four sides. The figures hold lotus flowers in their hands. The lower portions of the images below the waistlines are covered with clothes. The temple has the unique distinction of four door entrances, absence of pyramidal Jagamohan, provision of a platform and installation of the old God Viranchinarayan facing to four directions.

Inside the sanctum, figures of Anantasayi Vishnu, Mahisamardini Durga and Lord Sri Krishna lifting the mountain Gobardhan are placed. They were probably obtained from some other sites and kept here for worship. The image of Durga is ten-armed displaying attributes like sword, disc, spear, dagger, shield, bow, arrow, snake, conch and tail of the buffalo demon. The deity is in the attitude of killing the demon who appears to be emerging from the decapitated body of the buffalo in human form. The figure of a Anantasayi Vishnu is seen resting on the coils of snake (Ananta), Brahma seated on a lotus flower originating from the navel region of Vishnu while Sridevi and Bhudevi stand on the sides in folded hands. The third piece is identified with Sri Krishna uplifting the mountain Gobardhan.

There are High English school, college, Grama Panchayat Office and Post Office.

### **Panchalingeswar**

Panchalingeswar is a beautiful spot on the top of a hill situated about 10 km. from Nilagiri town. There is a motorable road from Nilagiri town to the foot of the hill. One has to climb up to a

height of 152.4 metres to reach the place amidst dense forest and natural sceneries. There is a perennial stream which flows over the five *lingas* throughout the year except for a few days during the summer season. Visitors feel the presence of the *lingas* inside the water. It is traditionally believed that Lord Ramachandra worshipped these Sivalingas during his exile period. Many pilgrims and visitors come to this place throughout the year for Darshan of the Lords and enjoy the natural scenery. It is a beautiful picnic spot. A Panthasala has been constructed by the Tourism Department, Government of Orissa.

There is also a Revenue Rest Shed at the place.

### Pipili

Pipili is a village formerly situated near the mouth of the Subarnarekha in the north-east of Balashwer subdivision. It was once the most important port on the Orissa coast and contained settlement of the Portuguese and the Dutch. Within two decades of Vasco da Gama's discovery (1498 A. D.) of the sea-route to India, the Portuguese could establish a flourishing trade mart at Pipili. The Portuguese settled there in 1514, and for many years it was a centre of trade and power. Later the Dutch (1625 A. D.) took the opportunity to establish themselves here, and in Hamilton's *Hindustan* it is said that they shipped 2,000 tons of salt annually from the port. The English also appears to have had a settlement at Pipili, though it is disputed<sup>1</sup>.

Of the Portuguese, Dutch and English settlements every vestige and trace have been obliterated, and the remains of even a single building cannot be traced.

A note on Pipili has been given in Appendix II to the Chapter II (History).

### Raibania

Raibania group of medieval forts is situated 14.5 km. north of Jaleshwar and 3.2 km. from the right bank of the river Subarnarekha.

The traditional view regarding the fort goes back to the Puranic age when king Virata was ruling over this land. He is said to have enshrined goddess Kichakeswari in this fort which

1. *Bengal District Gazetteers, Balasore*, 1907, by L. S. S. O' Malley, p. 204.

was later on removed by a Bhanja ruler of Mayurbhanj who installed the deity in a temple at Khiching. Ruins of this fort still indicate the shrine of Kichakeswari. The presiding deity Kichakeswari of Khichingeswari of the temple at Khiching can be assigned to the 10th-11th centuries A. D. If this view is accepted then the ruins of Raibania fort can be dated back at least to this period.

A detailed description of this historic fort has been given in the Appendix I to the chapter II (History).

There are High English school, police-station, Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Rest shed and Post office.

Population of the place in 1981 Census was 4,192 persons.

### Remuna

Remuna is a village in Baleshwar Subdivision situated in  $21^{\circ} 33' \text{ N.}$  and  $86^{\circ} 53' \text{ E.}$ , 8 km. west of Baleshwar town. It is famous for Khirachora Gopinath and has been a seat of Vaishnavite culture for centuries. The temple attracts large number of devotees from far off places round the year. The main temple enshrining the Gopinath image is of modern construction with all other accessories like kitchen, store room, dancing hall and open courtyard paved with dressed masonry blocks of stones. The courtyard behind the temple is shrouded by rows of houses constructed for the accommodation of pilgrims coming from long distance. The inner area of this courtyard is filled with Champak and Kadamba trees. The Chandana tank and the kitchen garden meant for the deity are located outside the premises of the temple.

The floors of the Jagamohan and the main shrine are paved with decorative and coloured marble stones. The image of Gopinath has been installed on an elevated pedestal erected at the centre of sanctum sanctorum. There is very little difference in the style and technique of carvings of this image in comparison to Gopinath images found elsewhere in Orissa. The image measuring 1.0149 metres  $\times$  0.5059 metre ( $3'4'' \times 1'8''$ ) stands in a captivating *tribhanga* pose with flute in a playing posture. Eight *gopis*, *sakhas* and 12 cows and calves have been carved on both sides of the image. Kadamba tree, Jambu fruits and flying *Apsaras* are also seen carved on the back slab. Lord Gopinath wears a well-designed Kirati, sandals, Vanamala and a

set of richly carved decorative ornaments. The image is in perfect condition as it has escaped the hands of Muslim iconoclasts. Images of Govinda and Madana Gopala are kept on the left and right side of Gopinath respectively.

Apart from the Gopinath image worshipped in the main shrine two other sculptures depicting the figures of Aruna and the Navagrahas have been preserved in the front courtyard. The Navagraha slab appears to have been attached originally to the main temple.

Khira, a special milk preparation is the most delicious and main *prasad* of the Lord. A religious fair is held annually here in February. The fair lasts for 13 days and is attended by large number of people.

The Alarpur and Kendupatna copper plate grants of Narasinghdev (1278—1308 A.D.), the builder of the famous Konarak temple, refers to the establishment of Gopinath image at Remunakataka which gives a positive clue for assigning the date to the idol. Madhavendrapuri, the teacher of Shri Chaitanya, himself and his disciple Jeevaswami Goswami are said to have visited the place for worshipping Khirachora Gopinath.

On the way to Khirachora temple there is a fine monastery of Goudiya Mission. The images of Lord Jagannath, Balabhadra, and Subhadra are worshipped here. The Rasikananda Samadhi, Madhavendrapuri Math, Saptasara river, Chandj and Gargeswar temples are the other sites of attraction of the place. About 2 km. west of Remuna there is a large and deep tank called Kutapokhari. Near by there is a big statue of granite of Goddess Durga with 18 hands. A festival is held here on the first day of Baisakh.

At Remuna there are police-station, Block Development Office, High English schools, C. T. Training school for girls, Post Office, Rest House, Primary Health Centre, mosque, college, dairy farm, Panchayat industry, bell-metal industry and veterinary dispensary. The weekly market sits here twice on every Sunday and Thursday.

Population of the place in the Census of 1981 was 1,225 persons.

### Sajanagada

Sajanagada is situated at a distance of 5 km. to the west of Nilagiri town, the subdivisional headquarters. The place is famous for Budhar Chandi deity, worshipped in a renovated temple and regarded as the tutelary goddess of Nilagiri Raj family. According to the Settlement Report of the Nilagiri ex-state, 1921, the temple was built between 1521—1564 A. D. by the 13th ruler of the ex-state of Nilagiri. The original temple has been greatly renovated by the later rulers. It consists of four parts, viz., the Garbhagruha, the Jagamohan, the Bhogamandap and the Natamandap. The main temple has been built in *rekha* style whereas the Jagamohan is in *pidha* style of architecture. The inscriptions originally inscribed on the door-ways of the Garbhagruha, Jagamohan and Natamandap have been damaged. The roof of the Natamandap is supported by a series of masonry pillars. Goddess Budhar Chandi which was kept earlier in a room adjacent to the Natamandap has been installed on a masonry pedestal at the centre of the Garbhagruha. The temple premises is enclosed by high masonry walls with a painting on the eastern side. The niches of the compound walls to the inner side contain mythological figures built in stucco work.

There are Middle English school, post office and market.

### Shergar

The village Shergar in the Khantapada police-station of the district is famous for the Khajureshwar group of Siva temples. Khajureshwar Sivalinga is said to have been installed by Banasura along with the Baneshwar Sivalinga of Baleshwar town, Gargeshwar Sivalinga of Purusottampur village, Panchalingeshwar of Nilagiri subdivision and Maninageshwar in Bardhanpur. One can approach the Khajureshwar group of temples covering a distance of nearly 3.2 km., from Shergar on the National Highway No. 5.

The main temple along with its Jagamohan was built in laterite stones and have been thoroughly plastered with lime mortar. Both the structures are in *pidha* design. Within the sanctum is worshipped Khajureshwar Sivalinga placed at the centre of a Saktipitha. Several bulls and a big figure of Narayan are also kept in the pavement of the sanctum for worship. In the inner niches of the Jagamohan are found figures of Narayan and Varaha-Vishnu. Both the idols are provided with their conventional attributes in hands. The Parsvadevatas of this shrine are Ganesh, Surya and Mahisamardini Durga. Besides there are many broken

images preserved here after recovery from the adjacent tank during the time of renovation. The outer niches of the main shrine and the front apartment are set with beautiful figures of Ajaikapada Bhairava, Gajalaxmi, Ganga, Yamuna, Parvati, Surya and Ganesh. The door lintel is said to have been contained an inscription which has been thoroughly defaced and covered in lime mortar. The jambs of the door way are carved with beautiful scroll designs and floral motifs. The Gajalaxmi figure on the centre of the door lintel is carved, seated in *lalita* pose on a double-petalled lotus pedestal, displaying *varada mudra* and lotus in hands.

Four more laterite shrines of miniature size are also seen in the premises of the temple, of which one is exclusively reserved for the Devi deity. They are all in a damaged condition. Behind the Devi temple are kept on a row, figures of Karttikeya, Ganesh, Surya, Yamuna and Khetrapala. The Khetrapala image is seated on a horse back with a sword raised in the right hand. Built on a low foundation of laterite stone, the Devi temple of which the top portion with the Mastaka had fallen down, stands at present to a height of 3.9224 meters (13 feet only). The door frame made in chlorite stone is richly ornamented with floral designs and scroll motifs. The lower part of the door jambs are shown with five foiled niches with a standing Dwarapal. At the centre of the lintel is the conventional Gajalaxmi image. Inside the Devi temple are kept a four-handed Ganesh image, a seated Manasa figure with canopy of seven hooded snake overhead and two eight-handed Mahisamardini Durga images.

Population of the place in the Census of 1981 was 1,961 persons.

### Solampur

Solampur is a village in Bhandaripokhari police-station of Bhadrak subdivision situated opposite Jajpur town in Cuttack district from which it is separated by the river Baitarani. The village finds mention in the Neulpur copper plate of Subhakar Dev I (790 A. D.) of the famous Bhaumakara dynasty of Orissa. The place is famous for the discovery of a large number of Mahayanic and Tantric Buddhist deities. Some of these archaeological relics are in damaging condition. The images fixed to the niches of the outer walls of the Raghunath temple of the village exhibits remarkable style of art of the early mediaeval period. The notable statue among this group is the one representing in a

slab of stone the eight great events associated with the life of Gautama Buddha. The main image is that of Buddha seated in *bhumisparsa mudra*. To the left of him at the bottom is depicted his birth scene from Mayadevi. Just above it he (Buddha) is found turning Wheel of Dharma. The topmost figure illustrates *mahaparinirvana* of Buddha at Kusinara. Below this figure and just above the head of the main image are to be found the representation of six Manasi Buddha. Such sculptures are found in several places of India during the Gupta and the post-Gupta period, but the Solampur figure is remarkable by its neat precision and artistic carving which may be regarded as one of the finest specimen of its kind.

Avalokitesvar image of this place sitting on a lotus throne may be compared with that of Avalokitesvar image found in Ratnagiri and Vaisravan image found in Udayagiri, both in Cuttack district. The image of Tara in *tribhanga* pose which has been attached to the outer wall of the temple narrated above reveals the artistic influence of Ratnagiri on this place. The standing image of Avalokiteswar flanked by two small figures of Tara is a product of decaying period. The chlorite image Vajrasattva of this place preserved at present in the Indian Museum, Calcutta is a fine specimen of plastic art and looks animated by natural vigour and grace. It sits in Vajraparyanka attitude and carries the *vara* on its right palm that has been placed against the chest while its left hand resting upon the thigh, holds a *ghanta* which has been damaged. Unlike its Nepalese proto types this image is not found erect and rigid, but in imitation of the Ratnagiri style, it inclines the trunk to the right and the head to the left thus conveying an exhilarating sense of rhythmic grace. Vajrasattva, is regarded as the 6th Dhyani Buddha and is worshipped only by those who are initiated to the Vajrayana cult. This image embodies the latest development of the Buddhist ideology and may, therefore, be assigned to the 11th century A. D.

It also contains the ruins of an old brick fort, which according to local tradition, was built by Kapilendra Deva, king of Orissa (1435-70). Inside the fort are a tomb and the ruins of a temple destroyed by the Mughals.

Population of the place in 1981 Census was 1,191 persons.

## Soro

Soro is situated in the Bhadrak-Baleshwar section of National Highway No. 5, about 32 km. south-west of Baleshwar. It is an important centre of political and cultural activities. In the 7th century A. D. it was the headquarters of a *Visaya* or district called Sarephahara as known from the Soro copper plate grants of Somadutta, Bhanudutta and Sambhuyasa. Archaeological relics of the place indicates the prevalence of Brahminical religion during the mediaeval period. Buddhist and Jain relics too, are noticed in this place.

Gohiriasahi, a small hamlet located at a distance of 3 km. from the Soro railway station preserves a large number of archaeological relics datable to 7th to 11th centuries A. D. Among the antiquities, there is a small Sivalinga fixed to Yonipitha with the well-known Buddhist Dharma inscribed on four sides of its square pedestal. The stone is of bluish chlorite and is finely polished. According to its palaeographical features the inscription may be assigned a date in the later part of the 9th century A. D. or the beginning of the 10th century A. D. Near the site where the Sivalinga was found lie the lower portions of two images of Sun god. On two corners of the tank nearby two more Sivalingas were recovered while digging. Another Sivalinga is worshipped in a modern built temple. It thus proves that originally there were four Sivalingas installed at this place.

At several parts of the village one can notice a series of broken images associated with Buddhist, Jaina and Brahminical cults. A huge slab of stone containing Saptamatruka figures has been removed to Baleshwar town and is preserved in a museum located at Santikanan. The stone slab also contains an inscription.

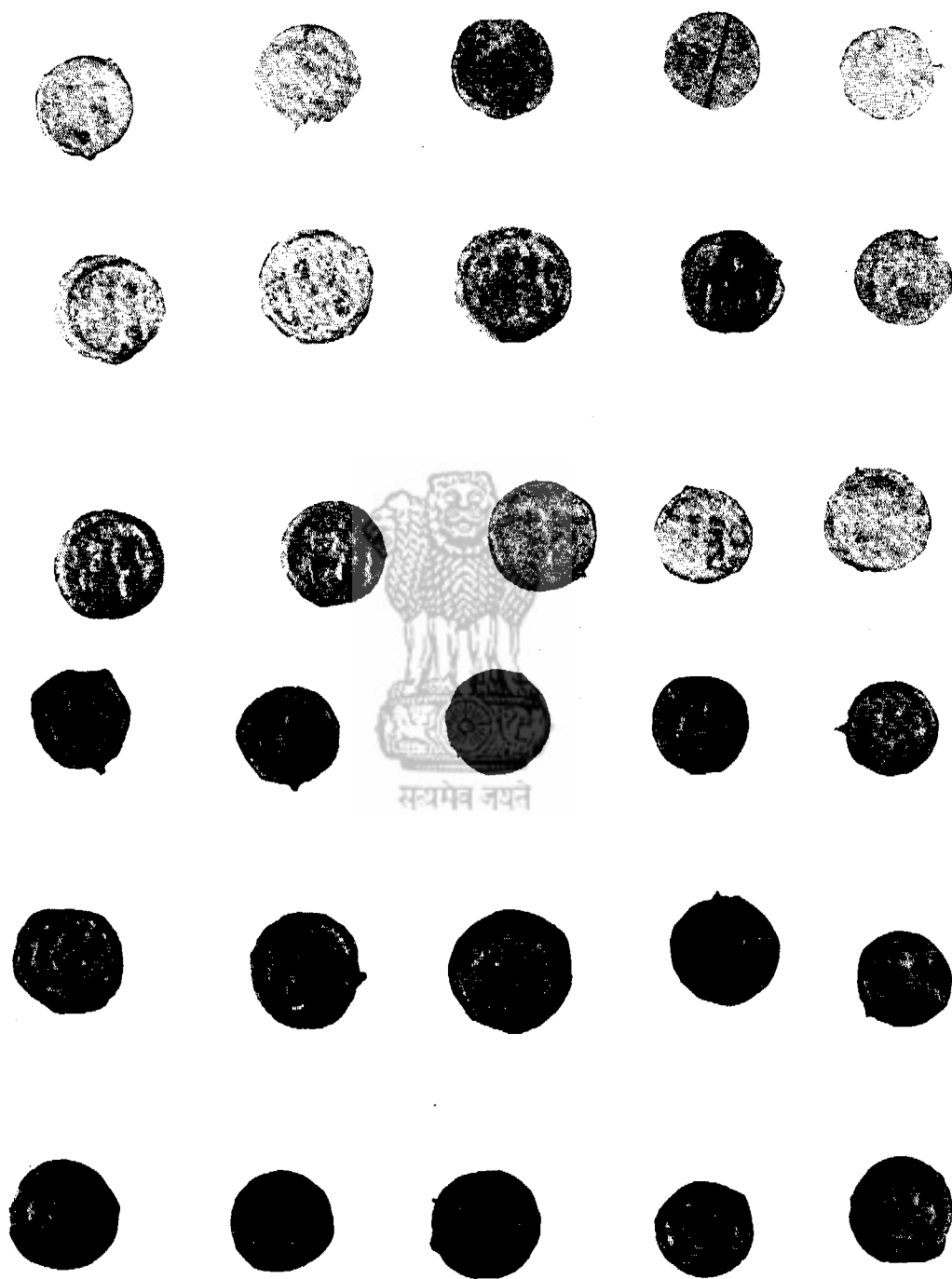
There are police-station, dispensary, inspection bungalow, railway station, Post office, High English school, college, Block Development Office, Tahasil office and daily market.

The civic affairs of the town are managed by a Notified Area Council. Population of the place in the Census of 1981 was 18,599 persons.

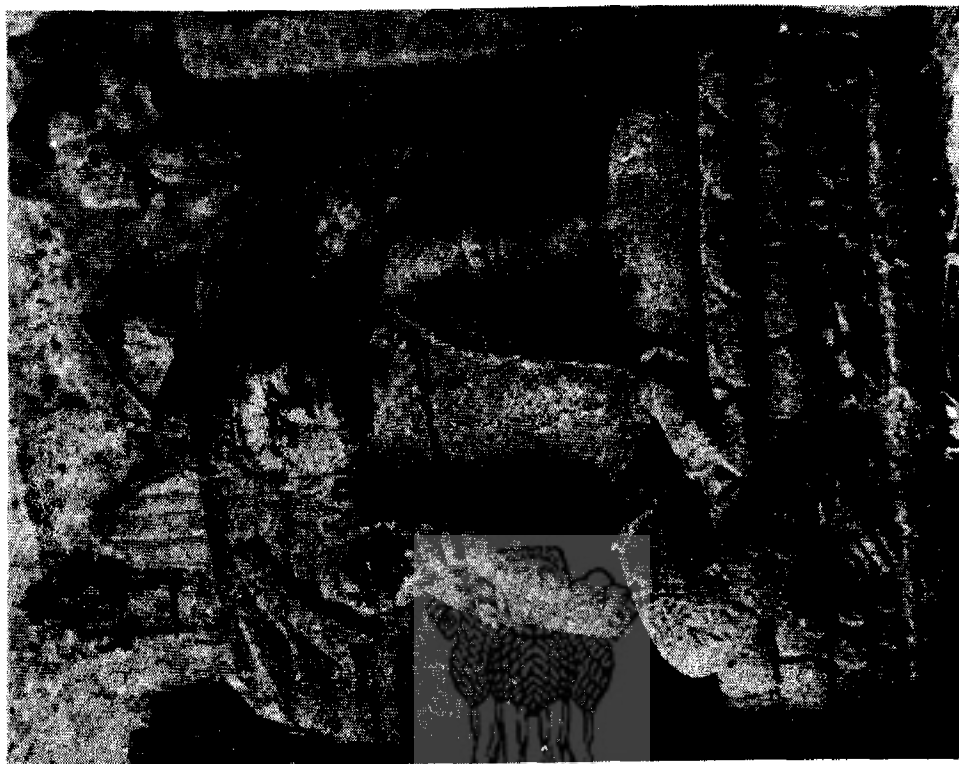








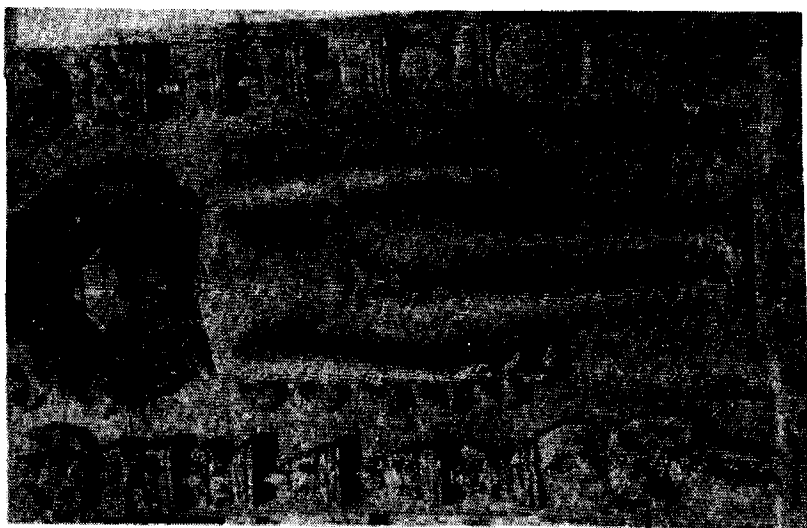
Copper coins discovered from Nandura



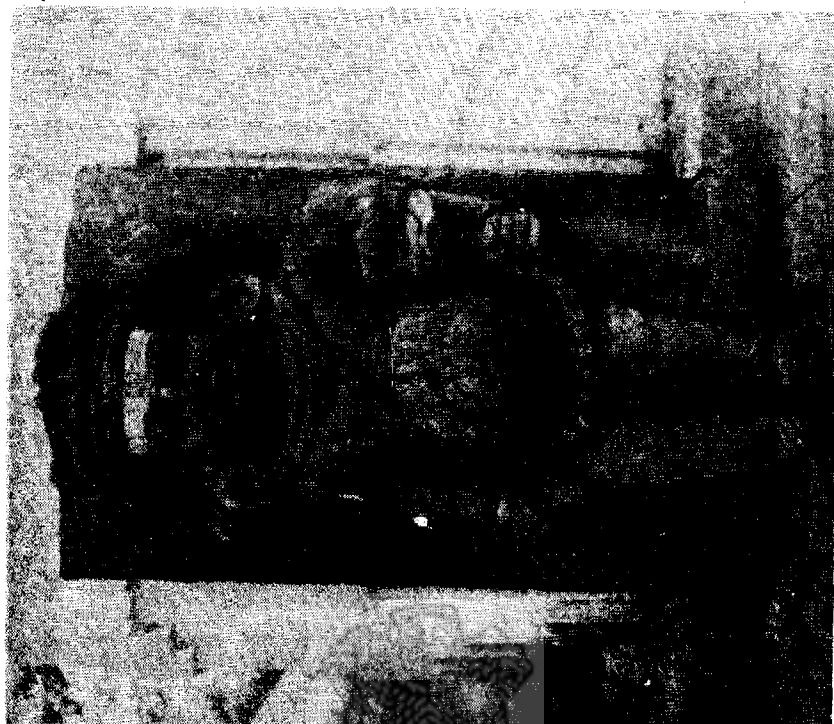
Avolokitesvara, Paduan



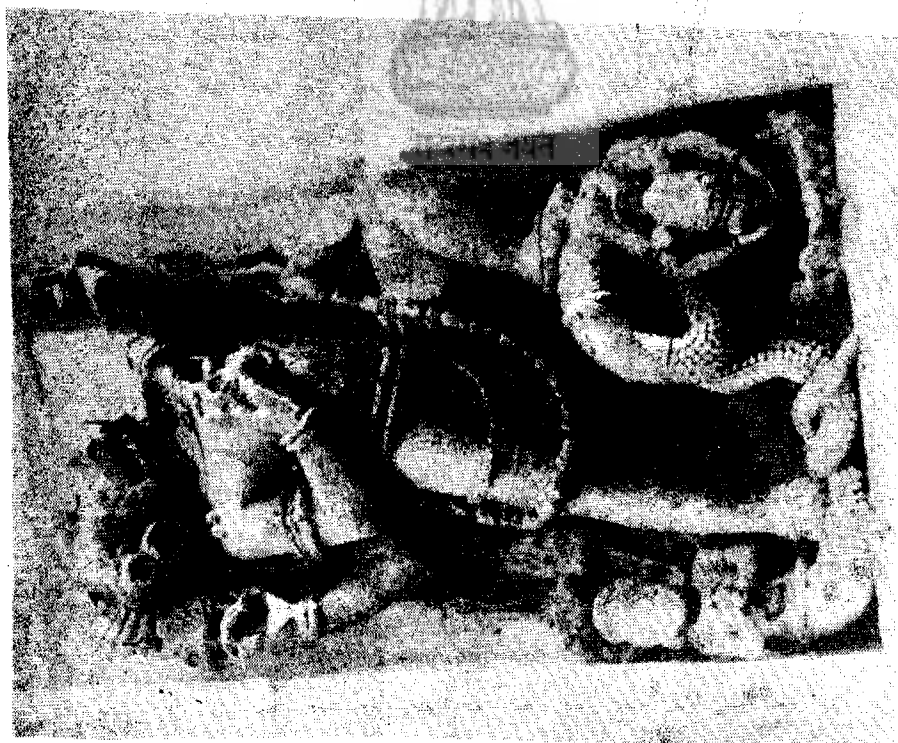
सत्यमेव जयते



Parsvanath, Ayodhya



Bhairava image in Maningeswar Temple, Bardhampur



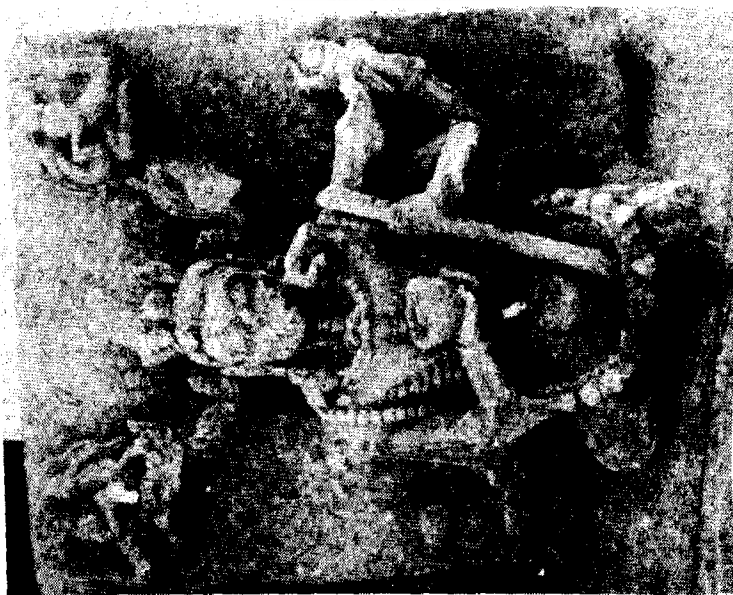
Varaha, Bakreswar Temple



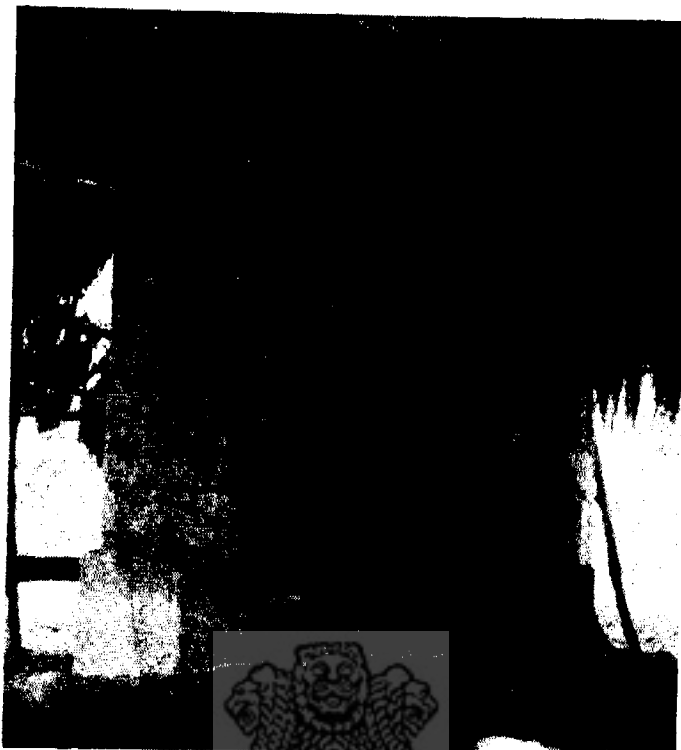
Ambika (Left) and Tara (Right), Ayodhya



सत्यमेव जयते



Chamunda image in Maninageswar Temple, Bardhanpur



Bhusandeswar Siva Linga, Kirtania

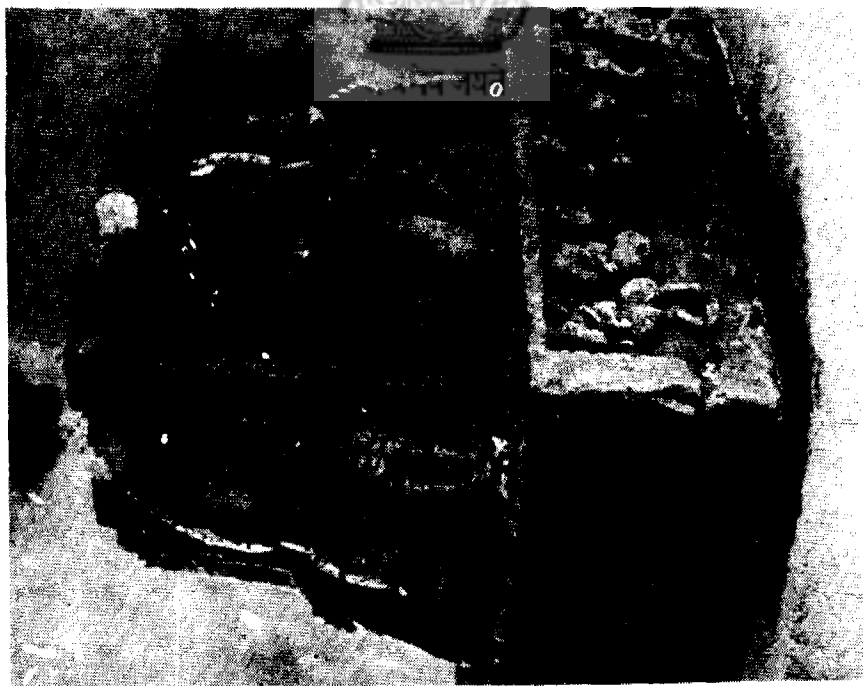


Images of Surya, Ganesh and Kartikeya in the precinct of Khajureswar Temple

Courtesy : I.&P.R. Department (Above & Below)



Siva Linga, Narendrapur

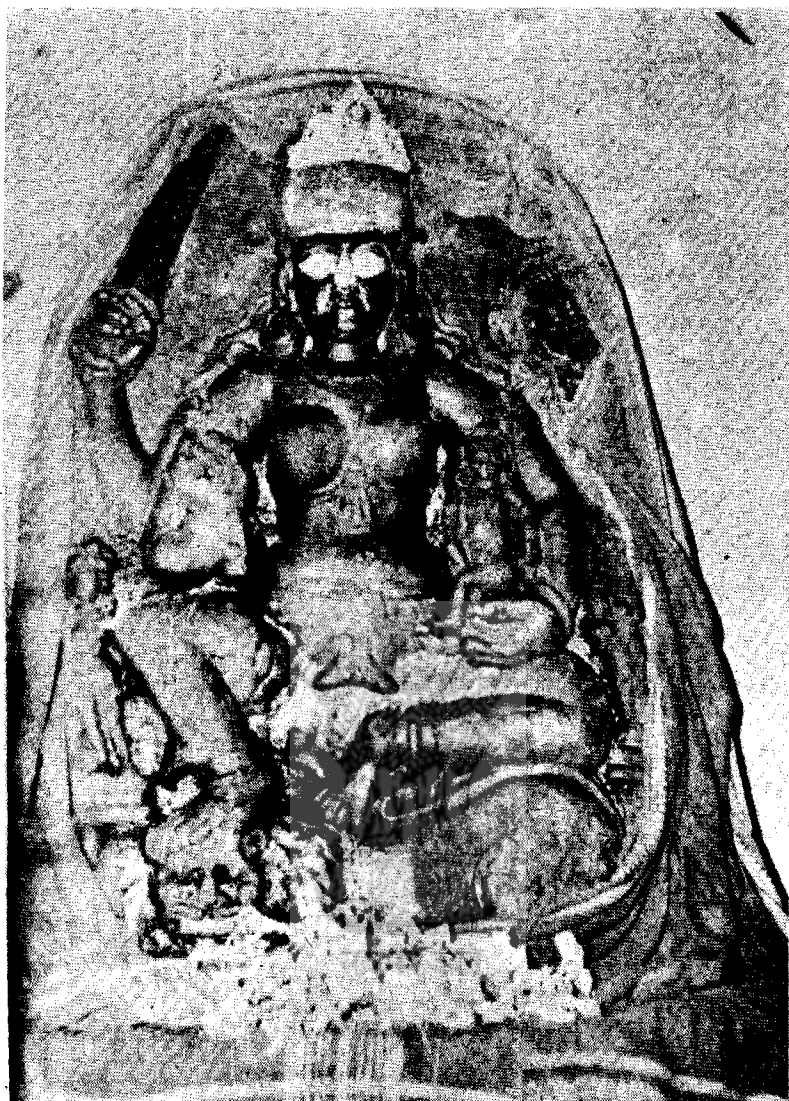


Lord Biranchinarayan, Paliabindha





Bajra Barahi, Badagan



Pateni Mangala, near Bhadrak



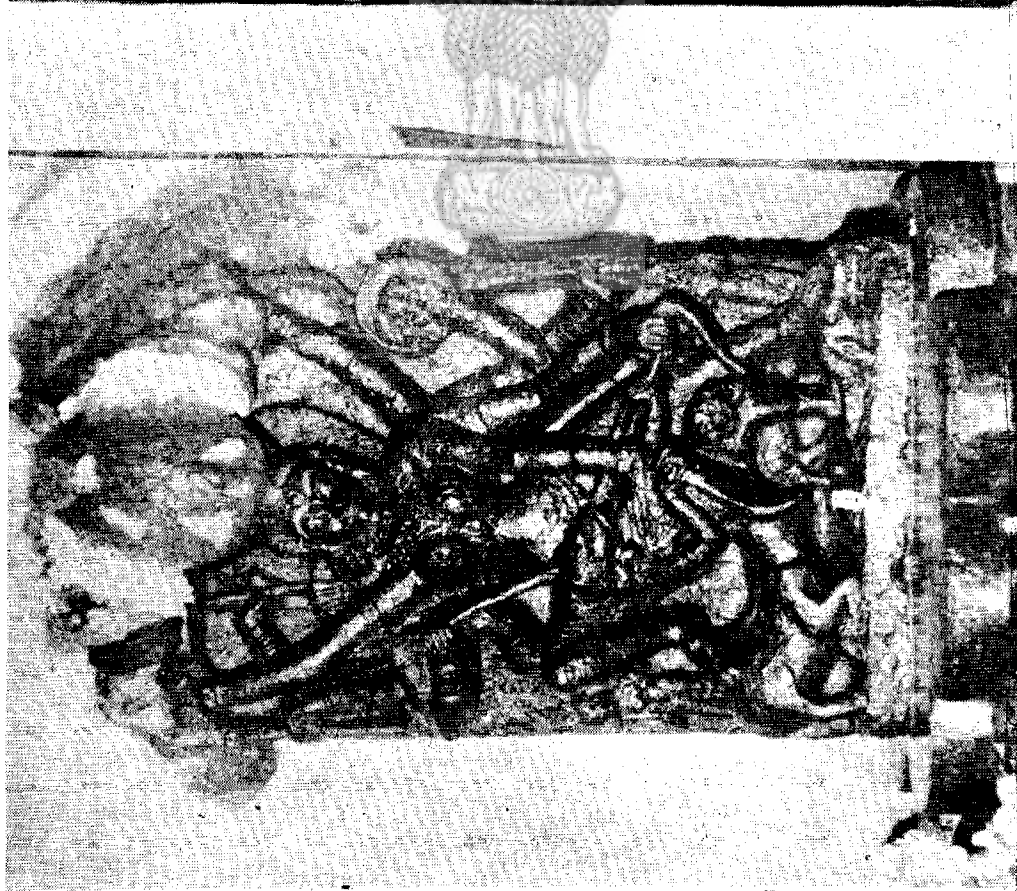
Durga Image, Khajureswar Temple, Sergar



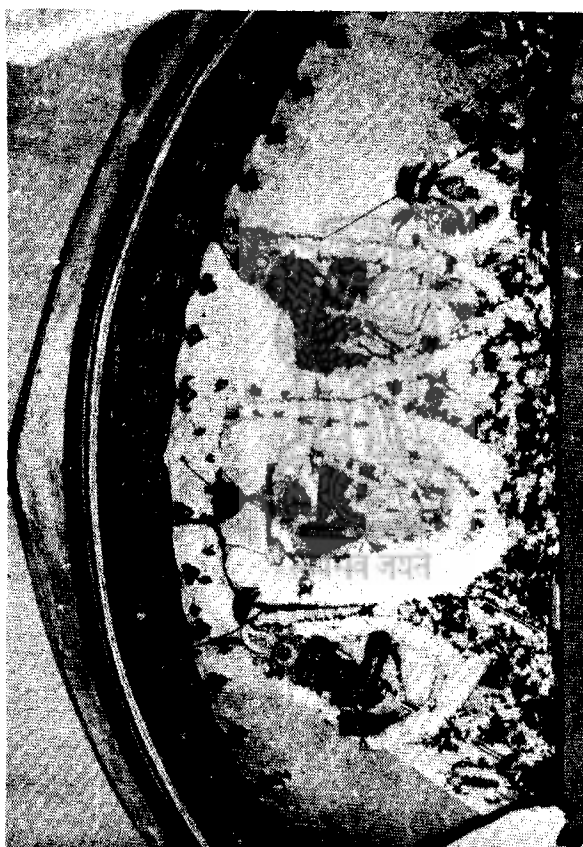
Durga Image, Kanheibindha, Markona



Durga Image, Maninageswar Temple, Bardhanpur



Mahisamardini Durga, Indupur



Gopinath, Madanmohan and Govinda deities of Khirachora

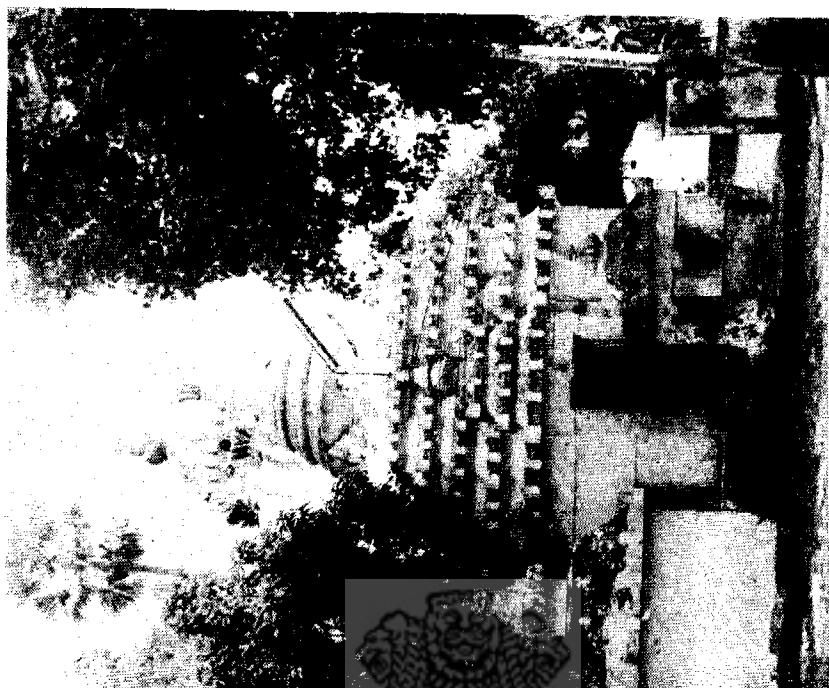


Bhadrakali, Bhadrak

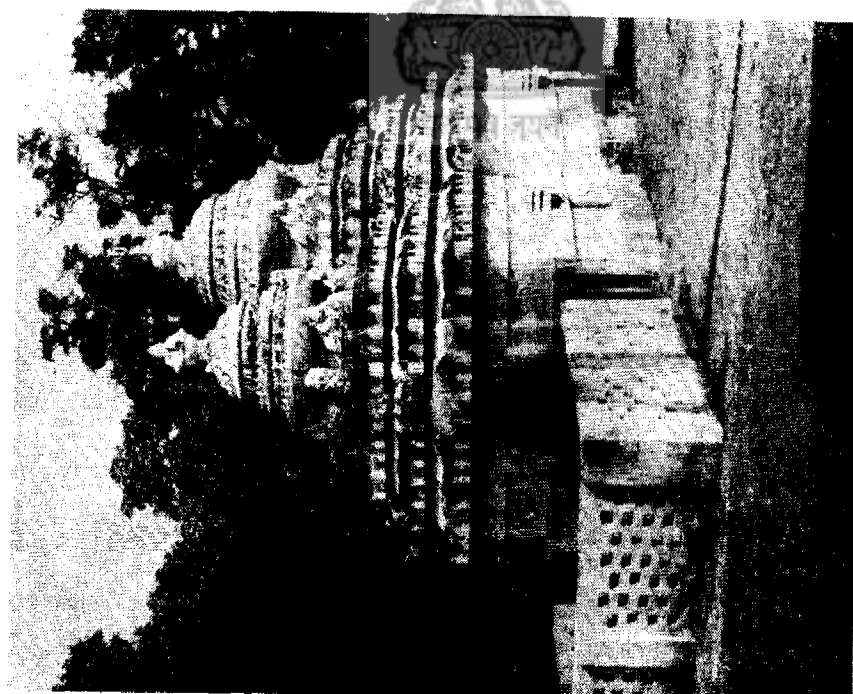


Shri Chaitanya Deva Image, Sainthia



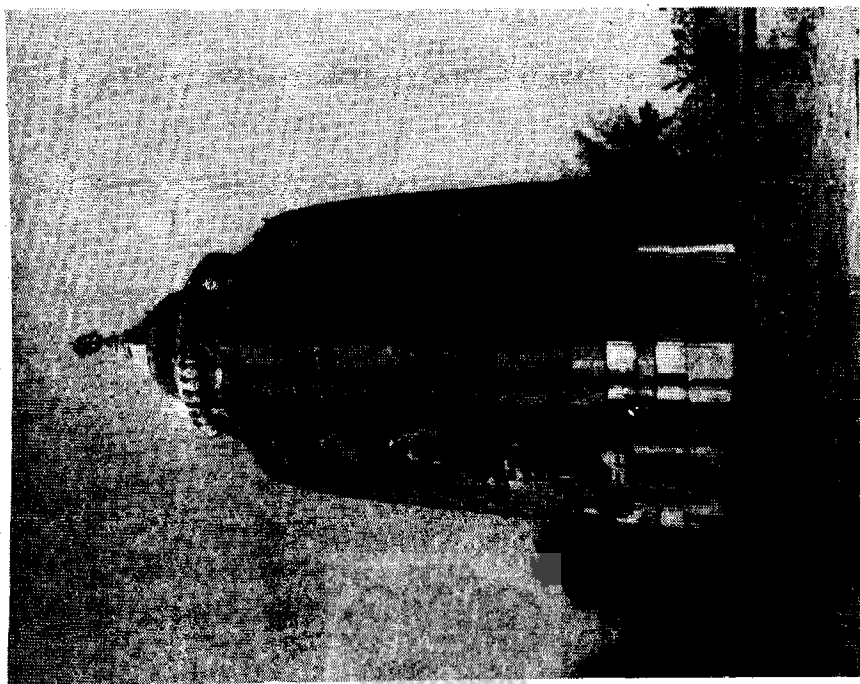


Maninageswar Temple, Bardhanpur



Langaleswar Temple, Nangaleswar





Biranchinarayan Temple, Pali, India



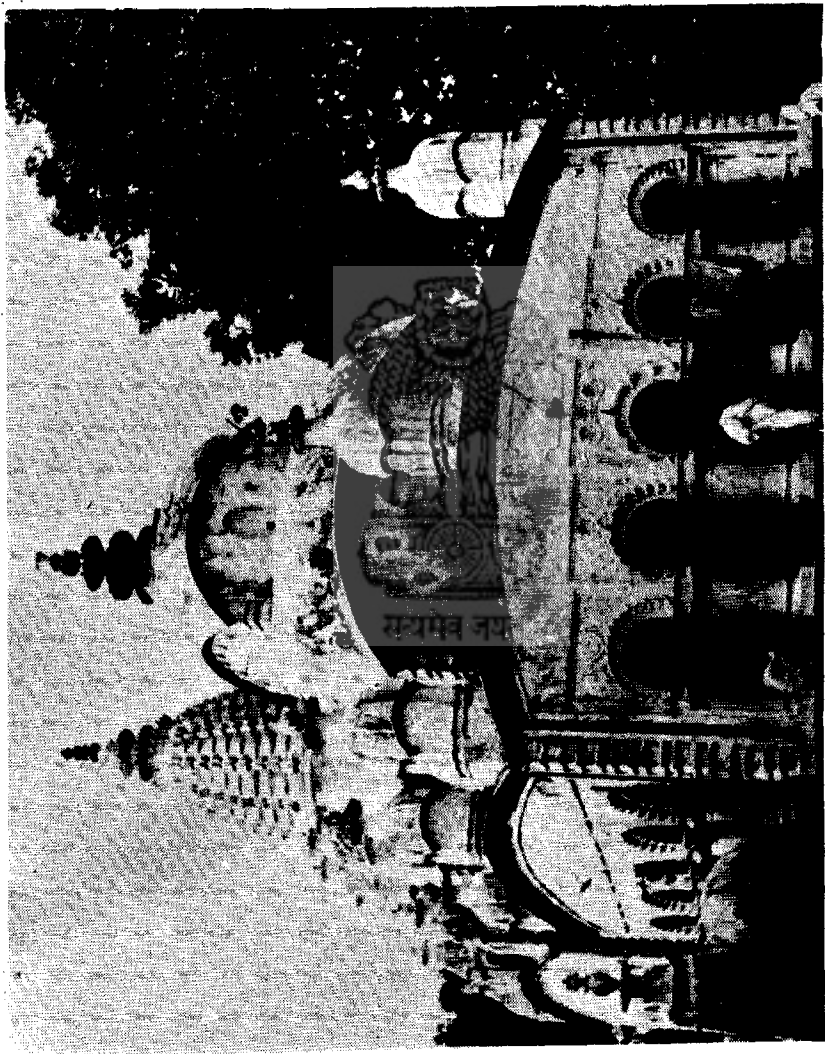
Khajureswar Temple, Sergor, India



Pateni Mangala Temple, near Bhadrak



Budharchandi Temple, Sajanagada



Temple of Lord Chandaneswar, Chandaneswar

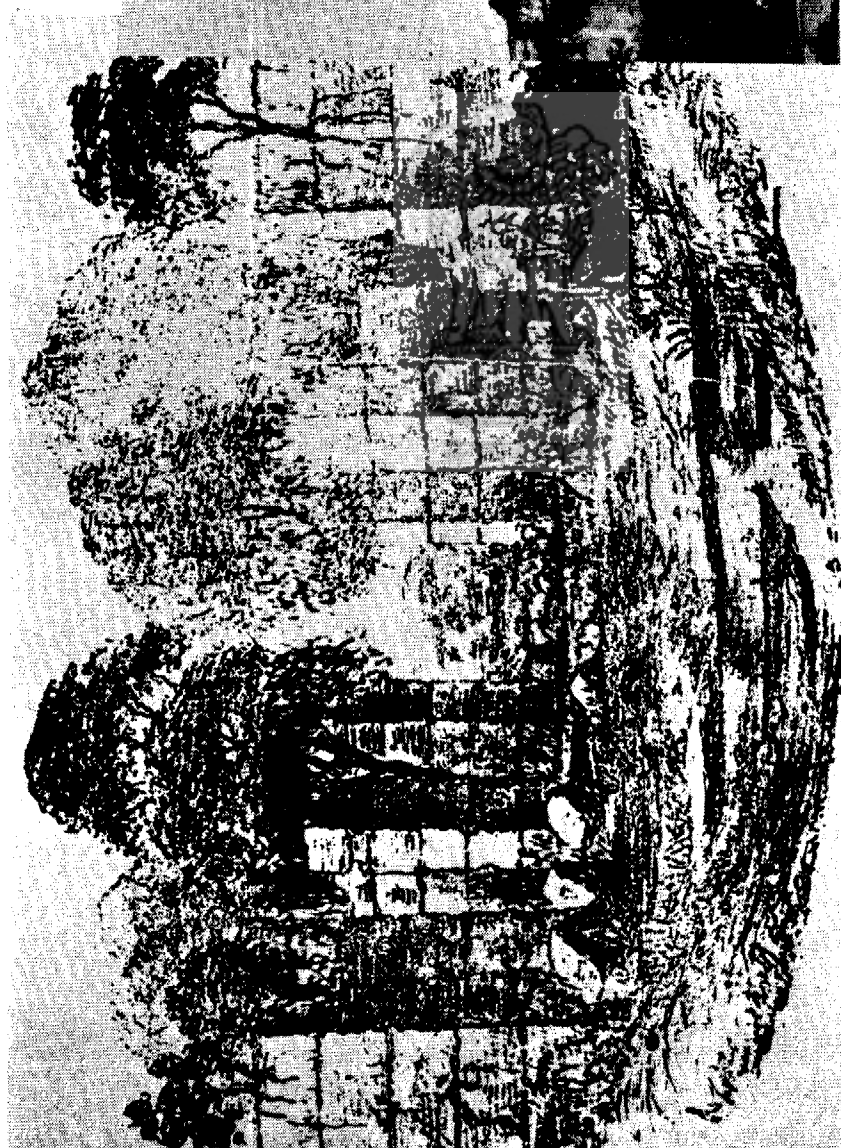


Temple of Lord Khirachora Gopinath, Remuna

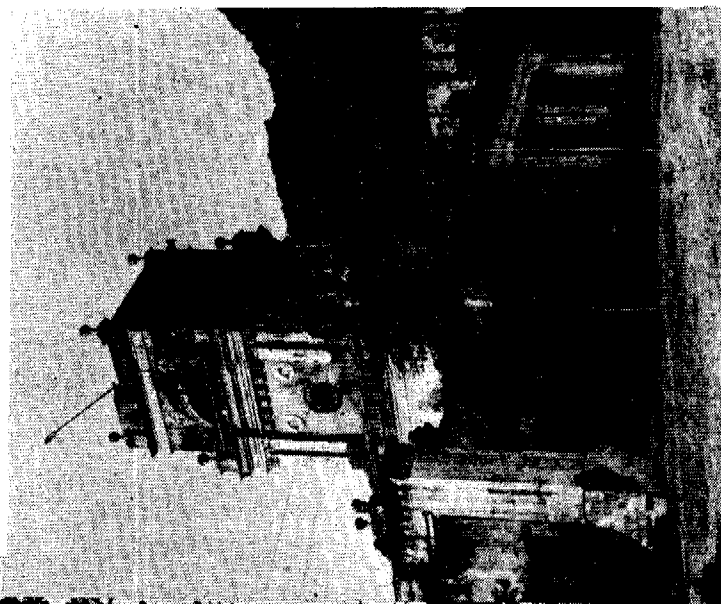


Lord Akhandaleswar Temple, Aradi





A view of Satgambhiya Attalika of Raibania Fort, Raibania



Nilagiri Palace, Nilagiri

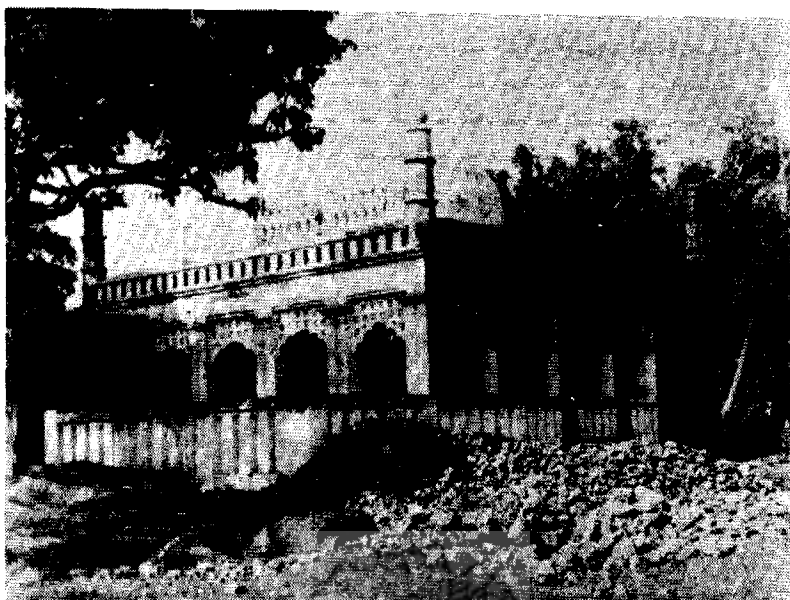
Courtesy : I.&P.R. Department



Labana Saryagraha Pillar, Inchudi



An European Cemetery, Barabati

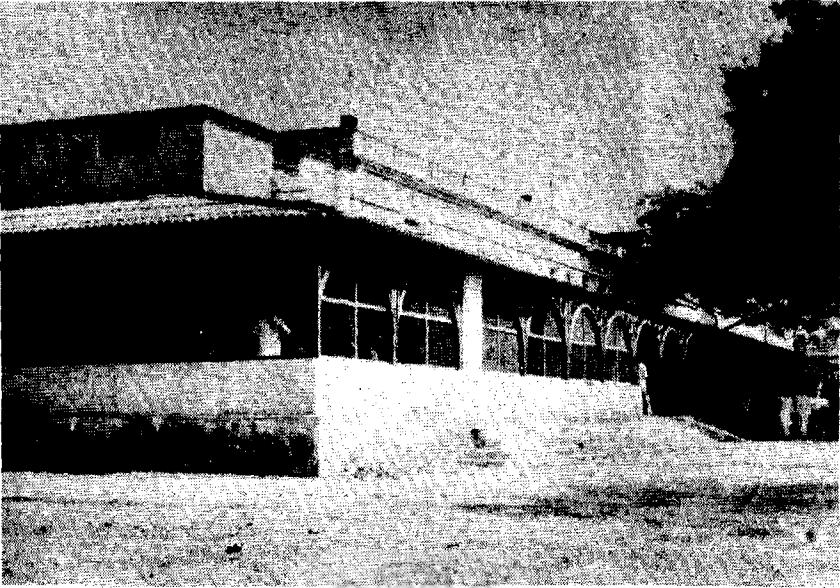


Kadam Rasool, Baleshwar

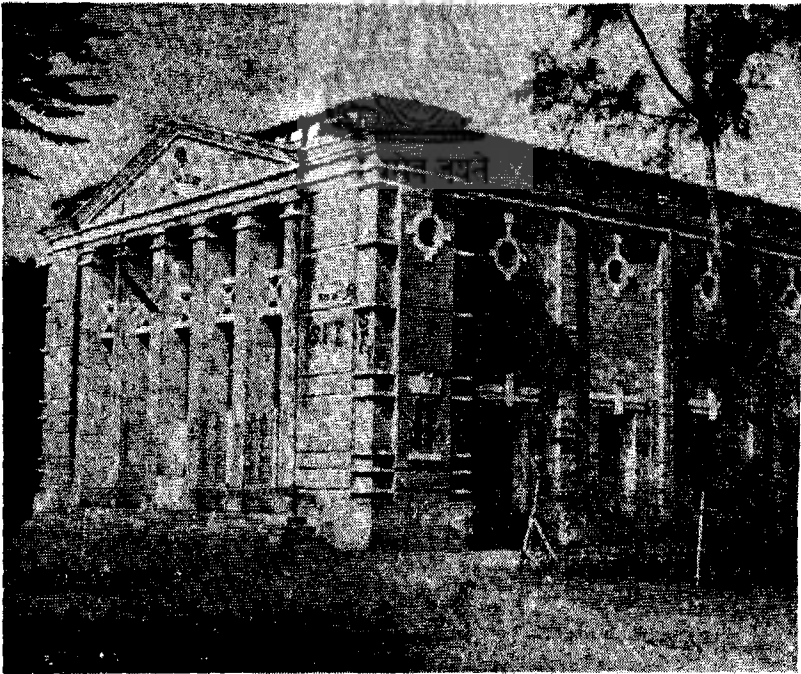


Bhujakhia Pir, Baleshwar

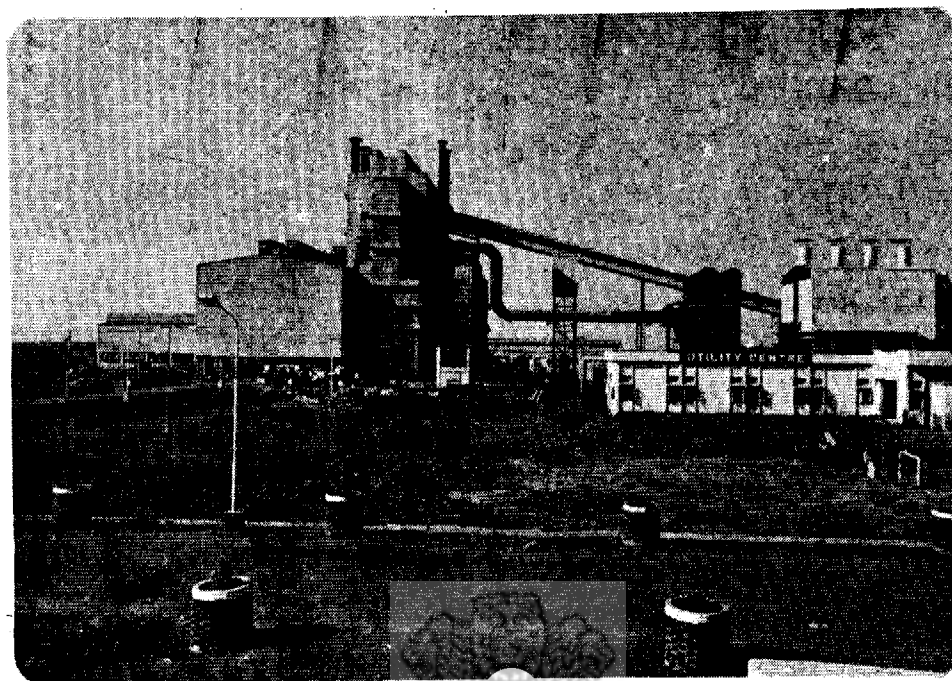




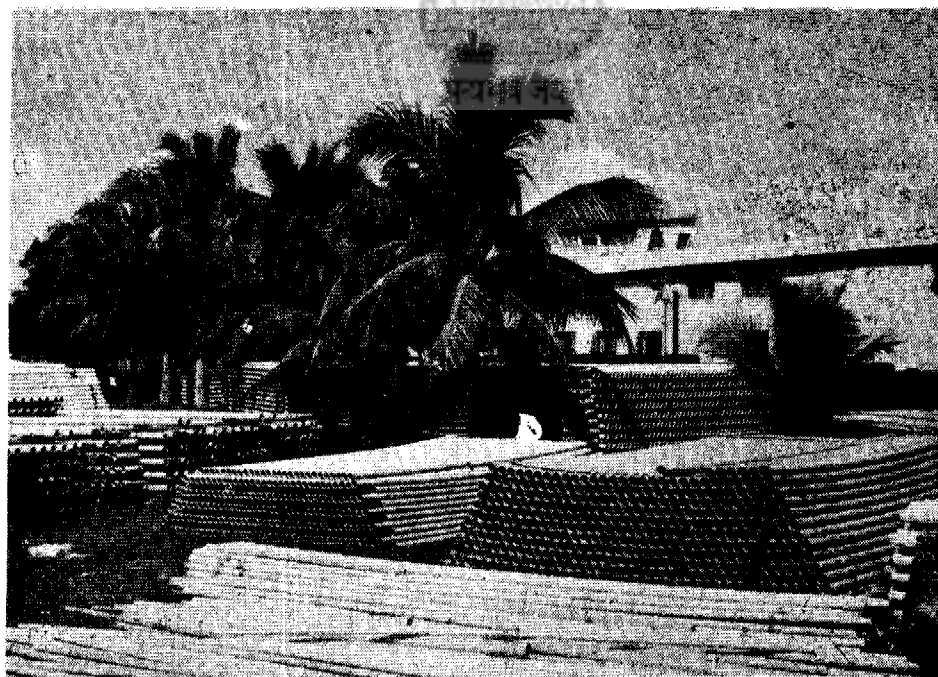
Collectorate Building, Baleshwar



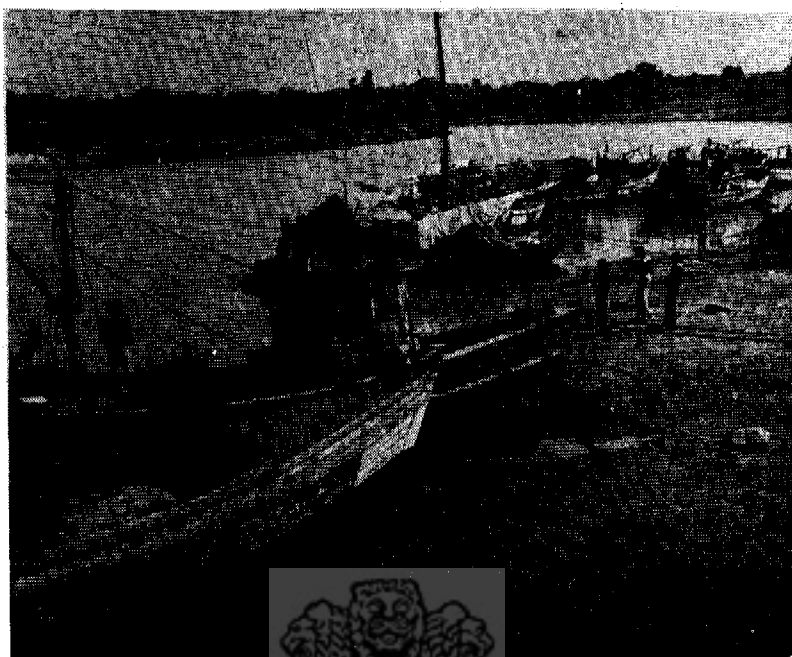
Fakir Mohan College, Baleshwar



A view of Charge Chrome Plant, Randia

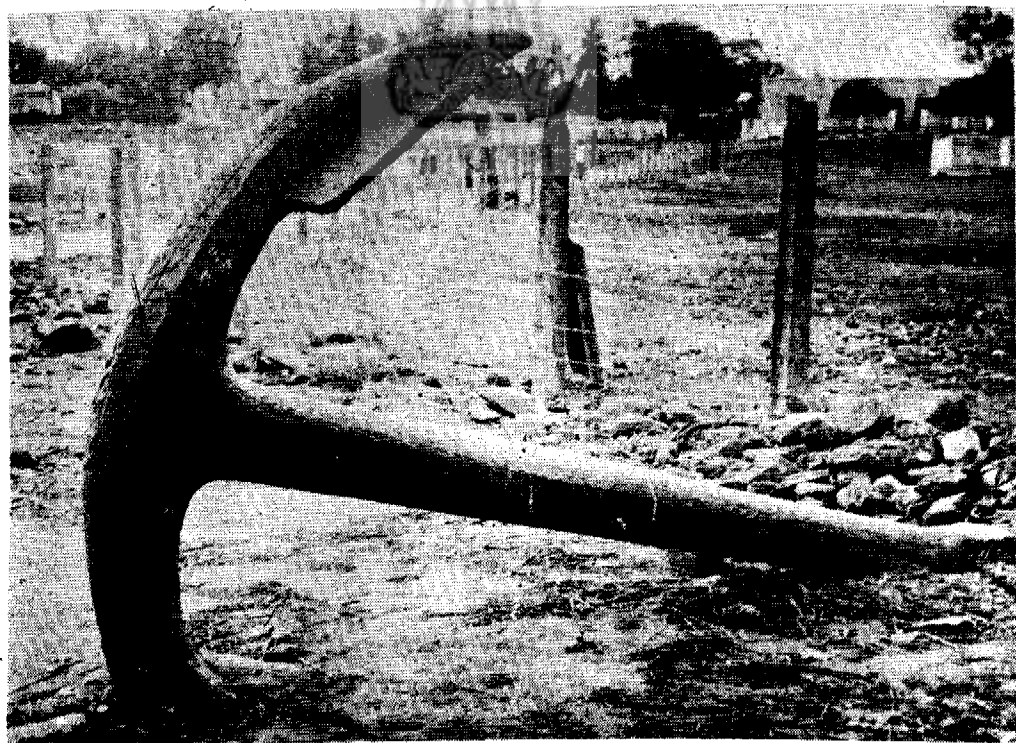


Ori Plast Industry, Baleshwar

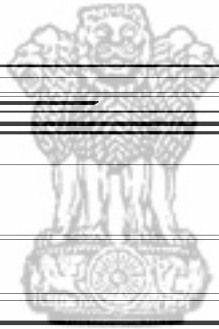


Ferry Ghat, Chandbali

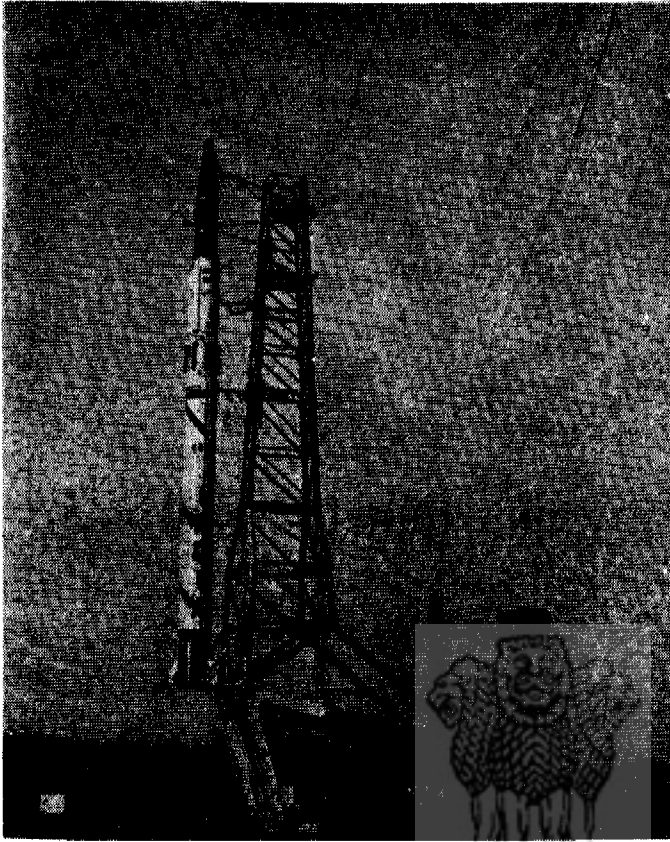
*Courtesy— I. & P.R. Department, Orissa*



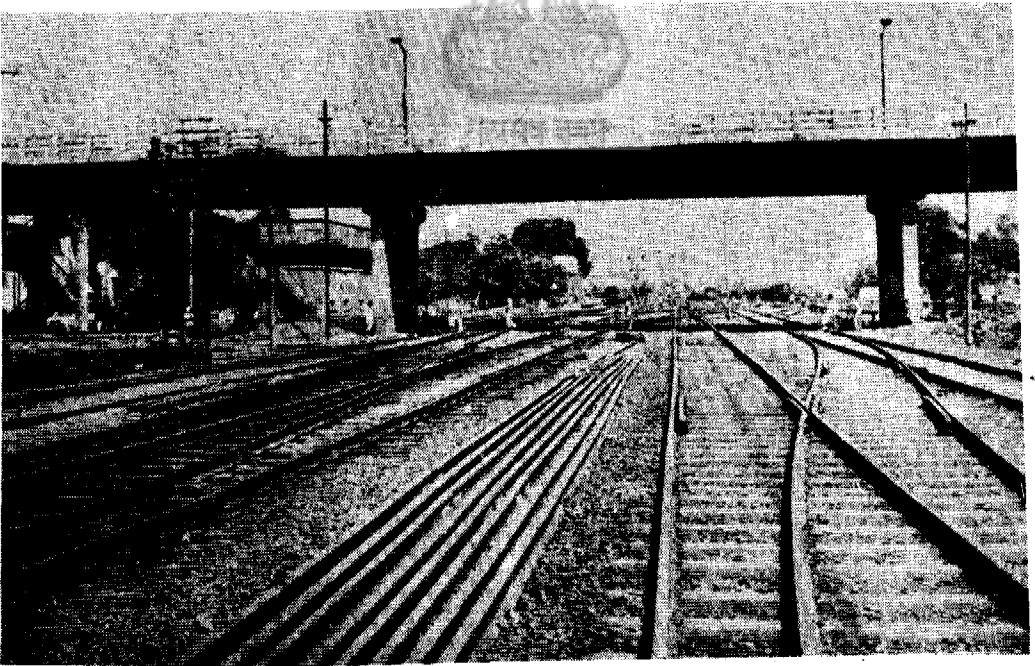
A gigantic anchor at Chandbali



सत्यमेव जयते

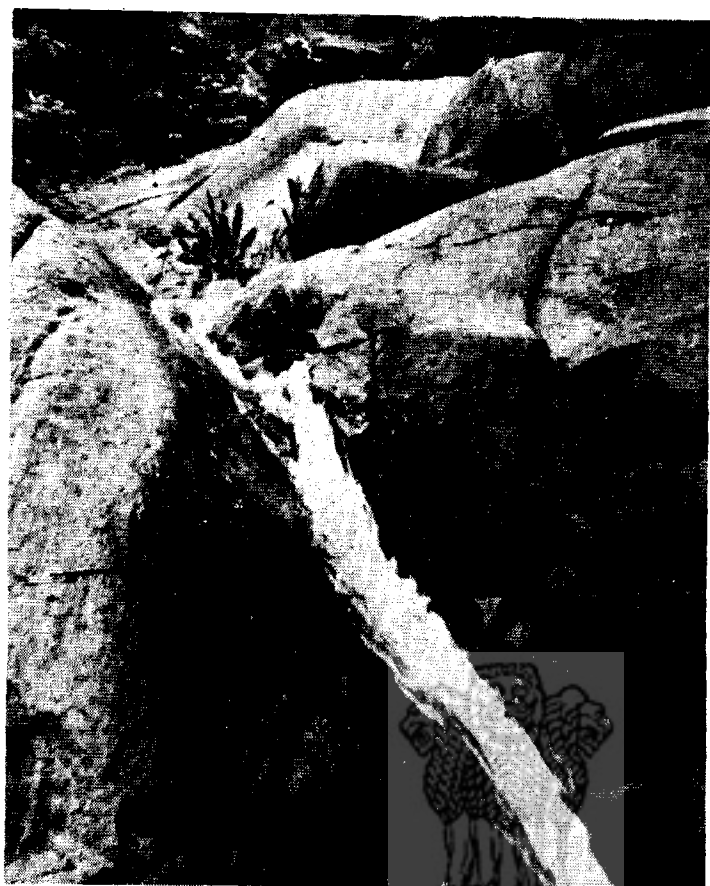


I. B. M. Launched at Chandipur



A view of flyover, Baleshwar

*Courtesy— I. & P.R. Department, Orissa*



Panchalingeswar



Sea-beach, Chandipur

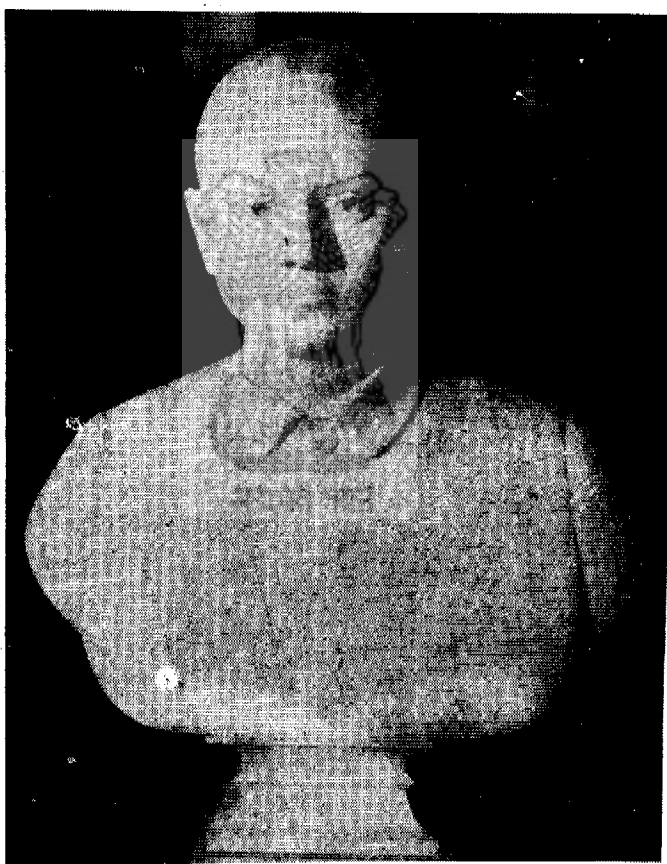


Kavibar Radhanath Rai



Vyasakavi Fakir Mohan Senapati





Bust of Sir John Beams

## GLOSSARY

(Diacritical notations : ा—ā; इ—ī; उ—ū; ओ—ō; ट—t; ठ—th  
ड—d; ढ—dh; ण—ṇ; ष—ṣ; श—ś).

Abadhān	ଅବଧାନ	— Teacher of old-time village school (Pathasala).
Alidhā	ଅଳିଧା	— A particular attitude of legs in which the right leg is outstretched while the left one is slightly bent.
Āpanā	ଆପନା	— Painting or decorative designs made on the wall or on the floor on festive occasions.
Amābāsyā	ଅମାବାସ୍ୟା	— New Moon-day.
Amalaka	ଅମଳକ	— Fluted disc, resembling Anla ( <i>Emblica-officinalis-gaertn.</i> ) fruit, crowning the top of the spire.
Amin	ଅମିନ	— Surveyor
Anjalihasta	ଅଞ୍ଜଳିହସ୍ତ	— Folded hands
Āṣāḍha	ଆଷାଢ଼	— Indian month corresponding to June-July.
Āsram	ଆଶ୍ରମ	— Hermitage
Aṣṭagraha	ଅଷ୍ଟଗ୍ରହ	— Eight celestial planets according to Hindu astronomy.
Asthī	ଅସ୍ଥି	— Bone
Āshwina	ଆଶ୍ୱିନ	— Indian month corresponding to September-October.
Avinaba	ଅଭିନବ	— New
Bāhāl	ବାହାଲ	— A low-lying land
Baisakh	ବୈଶାଖ	— Indian month corresponding to April-May.
Bājyāptīdar	ବାଜ୍ୟାପ୍ତିଦାର	— Holders of resumed tenures
Bālīā	ବାଲିଆ	— Sandy mud
Bhādrab	ଭାଦ୍ରବ	— Indian month corresponding to August-September.
Bhajan	ଭଜନ	— Melodious recital of devotional songs with playing musical instruments, such as, cymbals, conical drums and flute.
Bhāṅga	ଭାଙ୍ଗ	— Leaves of the intoxicating Indian Hashish ( <i>cannabis indica</i> ).
Bhōga	ଭୋଗ	— Food offered to a deity.

Bhoodān	ଭୂଦାନ	—	Literally means a land gift; it refers to the Bhoodan Movement started by Acharya Binova Bhaba for collection of land for the landless.
Bhūmisparsa Mūdrā	ଭୂମିସ୍ପର୍ଶ ମୁଦ୍ରା	—	A sitting posture of Lord Buddha by touching earth on a finger.
Bīsarjan	ବିସର୍ଜନ	—	Immersion
Bisoi	ବିଶୌ	—	Title of the collector of revenue of a Bis or Pargana during Muslim rule.
Būjhārat	ବୁଝାଉଡ଼	—	Explanation of the entries made by the Amin during field work in Settlement Operation by Munsarims before attestation of the records by the Assistant Settlement Officer.
Chaitra	ଚୈତ୍ର	—	Indian month corresponding to March-April.
Chak	ଚକ	—	Contiguous plots of land in a particular area in a village.
Chapal	ଚପଲ	—	Slipper
Chātashālī	ଚାଟଶାଳୀ	—	Old-time village school.
Chautha	ଚୌଥ/ଚଉଥ	—	A sort of tribute levied by the Marathas corresponding to one-fourth of the gross produce.
Chōūdhūrī	ଚୌଧୁରୀ	—	Chief Revenue Officer for a Taluk under the Muslim rule.
Chōūkidār	ଚୌକିଦାର	—	A watchman; village police.
Chūḍī	ଚୁଡ଼ି	—	Bangle
Chūna	ଚୁନ	—	Limé
Dālūa	ଡାଲୁଆ	—	Spring rice sown in November-December and harvested in March-April.
Darshan	ଦର୍ଶନ	—	To have a look of the deity while praying.
Dāskathiā	ଦାସକାଠିଆ	—	An indigenous form of ballad singing by a party of two persons who dramatise and sing epic songs or episodes with the accompaniment of a pair of castanets or wooden-clappers fitted with a bunch of tiny ankle-bells as the only musical instrument.

Dawān	ଦୋହାନ	---	Chief Executive Officer next to the Ruler in ex-feudatory state.
Dharaṇī	ଧରଣୀ	—	Buddhist votive.
Dharma Chakra	ଧର୍ମଚକ୍ର		
Prabartana Mūdrā	ପ୍ରବର୍ତ୍ତନ ମୁଦ୍ରା	—	Particular pose of the hand symbolising Buddha's preaching the Law.
Dharmasālā	ଧର୍ମଶାଳା	—	A rest-house for pilgrims.
Dhūpa	ଧୂପ	—	Burning of incense sticks during worship.
Dhyānamūdrā	ଧ୍ୟାନମୁଦ୍ରା	—	Meditative posture.
Dīpa	ଦୀପ	—	Lighted small lamps.
Dōḥaśālī	ଦୋହାସାଲି	—	Double-cropped land.
Dōraśa	ଦୋରାସ	—	A mixture of clay and sand in nearly equal parts.
Fāṇḍā	ଫାଉଣ୍ଡା	—	Spade
Gahīra	ଗହୀରା	—	Low-lying land.
Gajaśimha	ଗଜସିଂହ	—	A rampant lion on a crouchant elephant.
Gāmūchhā	ଗାମୁଛା	—	A towel; a piece of cloth used for bathing, etc.
Gandharva	ଗନ୍ଧର୍ବ	—	Celestial dancer.
Ganjā	ଗଞ୍ଜା	—	An intoxicant Indian hemp ( <i>cannabis sativa</i> ).
Garbhagruha	ଗର୍ଭଗୃହ	—	Sanctum sanctorum.
Garhājāt	ଗଡ଼ଜାତ	—	Feudatory states of Orissa.
Gharita	ଘଣ୍ଟ	—	Bell-shaped member in finial of a <i>pidha deula</i> ; a bell-shaped gong
Gharbārī	ଘରବାରୀ	—	Homestead land.
Ghāt	ଘାଟ	---	Ferry
Ghee	ଘିଅ	---	Clarified butter
Gōchar	ଗୋଚର	—	Pasture
Gōtra	ଗୋତ୍ର	---	Lineage
Grāmadevatī	ଗ୍ରାମଦେବତା	—	Village goddess
Grāmapanchayat	ଗ୍ରାମପଞ୍ଚାୟତ	—	An elected body of local self-government at village level
Ṭōṣkāṇī	ଟୁଷକାଣି	---	Betel nut cutter

Gūmāṣṭā	ଗୁମାସ୍ତା	— A minor official; a landlord's clerk.
Habīṣāṇna	ହବିଷାଣ	— Vegetarian diet prepared in Ghee without condiments taken by Hindu widows during the month of Kartika (October-November) before sun-set.
Hāl	ହାଲ୍	— Current/Recent
Hāndiā	ହାଣ୍ଡିଆ	— A sort of intoxicating drink prepared by fermenting boiled rice; rice beer.
Hāt	ହାଟ	— Rural market
Henṣa	ହେଂସ	— Mat
Hūlūhūlī	ହୁଲୁହୁଲି	— Ululation
Jagamōhan	ଜଗମୋହନ	— Rectangular or square hall or porch in front of the sanctum.
Jajamāni	ଜଜମାନି	— Hereditary service.
Jamā	ଜମା	— Gross receipt; annual rent or revenue.
Jyeṣṭha	ଜ୍ୟେଷ୍ଠ	— Indian month corresponding to May-June.
Kalaśa	କଳସ	— Crowning element of the temple in the form of a vase, figuring as the container of the nectar of immortality.
Kānūṅgō	କାନୁଙ୍ଗୋ	— A subordinate revenue official/Accountant during Mughal and Maratha periods.
Kanyādān	କନ୍ୟାଦାନ	— Giving a girl (Bride) away in marriage to the bridegroom.
Kārtika	କାର୍ତ୍ତିକ	— Indian month corresponding to October-November.
Kaṭḍī	କଟଡ଼ି	— Cowry; <i>Cypraea moneta</i> .
Kāūnriā	କାଉଁରିଆ	— Mesta
Khadi	ଖଦୀ	— Cloth woven by hand-spun yarn.
Khadi	ଖଡ଼ି	— Chalk
Khākharā	ଖାଖରା	— Semi-cylindrical member resembling the fruit Boitala Kakharu ( <i>cucurbita maxima</i> Duch.).
Khānāpūrī	ଖାନାପୁରୀ	— Literally means filling in columns; the stage of operation of preliminary record-of-rights in Settlement operation.
Khanda	ଖଣ୍ଡା	— Sword

Khandapati	ଖଣ୍ଡପତି	— An officer under the Hindu kings of Orissa having chief control of a Khand or circle; a king.
Khapūri	ଖପୁରି	— Skull; slightly curved stone slab covering the roof of the <i>amalaka</i> .
Kharif	ଖରିଫ୍	— A crop season for staple cereal crop.
Khāśmāhāl	ଖାସ୍ ମାହାଲ	— Government estate.
Kūlā	କୁଲା	— Winnow
Kūnda	କୁଣ୍ଡ	— A small square vat for containing liquid, etc.
Kūtumba	କୁଟୁମ୍ବ	— Family
Lalīāśana	ଲଳିତାସନ	— A particular attitude of sitting in which one of the legs is pendent and the other lies pending on the throne.
Līnga	ଲିଙ୍ଗ	— Phallic symbol denoting Lord Siva.
Mahājan	ମହାଜନ	— Money-lender
Mahāparinirbāṇa	ମହାପରିନିର୍ବାଣ	— Eternal sleep of Lord Buddha.
Mahūri	ମହୁରୀ	— Indigenous clarinet.
Makadam	ମକଦମ	— Headman; tenure-holder.
Mantra	ମନ୍ତ୍ର	— Incantations
Mārgashira	ମାର୍ଗଶୀର	— Indian month corresponding to November-December
Matāla	ମଟାଳ	— Soil which includes a large proportion of clay.
Math	ମଠ	— Hindu monastery.
Melaṇa Padiā	ମେଳଣ ପଡ଼ିଆ	— Religious congregation ground of Radha-Krishna deities during Dola Festival.
Moūzā	ମୌଜା	— Revenue village.
Mufašil	ମଫସଲ	— Village; countryside.
Na'Anka	ନ'ଅଙ୍କ	— A great famine that befell Orissa in 1866. It is so named for it occurred in the ninth regnal year of the then Raja of Puri.
Nabagraha	ନବଗ୍ରହ	— Nine celestial planets according to Hindu astronomy.
Nāla	ନାଳ	— Small stream; channel.
Nātamandap	ନାଟମଣ୍ଡପ	— The dancing hall in a temple.

Nij-jōt	ନିଜ ଜୋତ	— The private land of the proprietor or proprietary-tenure.
Nirbandha	ନିର୍ବନ୍ଧ	— A sacred agreement for the marriage made before a deity by the parents/guardians of the bride and the bridegroom
Pachwāī	ପଚସ୍ୱାଇ	— Country liquor; fermented juice of Mahua flower
Pahāḍa	ପାହାଡ଼	— Hill
Pakhīā	ପାଖିଆ	— A shade made of palm-leaves to protect the head from sun and rain
Pālā	ପାଲୀ	— A form of ballad singing associated with the worship of Satyanarayan by a group consisting of 5 to 7 persons with the accompaniment of Mrudanga, cymbals, etc.
Pālki	ପାଲକି	— Palanquin
Pān	ପାନ	— Betel leaf
Pānīgrahan	ପାନିଗ୍ରହଣ	— Marriage
Parambrahma	ପରମବ୍ରହ୍ମ	— The Eternal soul.
Parbat	ପର୍ବତ	— Mountain
Parganā	ପରଗଣା	— Obsolescent term denoting collection of villages, or tract of land constituting a revenue unit during Muslim period.
Paṭū	ପଟୁ	— Alluvium
Paṭṣa	ପୌଷ	— Indian month corresponding to December-January.
Phagū	ଫଗୁ	— Coloured powder
Phālgūna	ଫାଲ୍‌ଗୁନ	— Indian month corresponding to February-March.
Pīnda	ପିଣ୍ଡ	— Paying oblation to ancestors.
Pīḍha	ପିଢ଼	— Downward curving pediment; projecting member constituting the pyramidal roof of a Jagamohan.
Pōthī	ପୋଥି	— Palm-leaf manuscript; book.
Praśād	ପ୍ରସାଦ	— Delicacies offered to deity.
Pūchī	ପୁଚି	— A kind of play amongst Orissa girls with frisking movement.
Purdāh	ପରଦା	— Curtain; veil.

Rabī	ରବି	---	A crop season (Autumn-Spring).
Rahu	ରାହୁ	---	The 8th celestial planet in Hindu astronomy.
Raiyat	ରୟତ	---	Tenant having right of occupancy in land
Rakhas	ରାକ୍ଷସ	---	Demon
Rakshīt	ରକ୍ଷିତ	---	Protected or reserved land.
Rekhā	ରେଖା	---	Order of temple characterised by a curvilinear spire which presents the appearance of a continuous line.
Śabik	ସାବିକ	---	Previous
Śahūkār	ସାହୁକାର	---	Village money-lender.
Salāmī	ସଲାମୀ	---	Cash or premium paid to a landlord by a tenant.
Sanand	ସନନ୍ଦ	---	Firman, a grant, a written order signed and sealed by a King or Government.
Sanī	ଶନି	---	Saturn
Śaptamātrukā	ସପ୍ତମାତୃକା	---	Seven-mother goddesses.
Sarad	ଶାରଦ	---	Rice reaped in Winter season (November-January)
Śarbarākār	ସରବରାଜାର	---	A village headman appointed for collecting land revenue for a village or group of villages in a Government estate. In many cases the Sarbarakars had become tenure-holders.
Śarbat	ସରବତ	---	A cold soft-drink.
Śardār	ସରଦାର	---	The headman of a village; the headman of a caste; the headman of a group of persons.
Śarēi	ସରେଇ	---	A rest-house for travellers.
Sāsana-devi	ଶାସନଦେବୀ	---	Associate of Jain Tirthankars.
Śeñā	ସେଣା	---	A basket made of split bamboo for bailing out water for irrigation and other purposes.
Shikār	ଶିକାର	---	Hunting
Śikimī Raiyat	ସିକିମି ରୟତ	---	Sub-tenant
Śindūka	ସିନ୍ଦୁକ	---	A big wooden box.
Shrābaṇ	ଶ୍ରାବଣ	---	Indian month corresponding to July-August.
Swarājya	ସ୍ୱରାଜ୍ୟ	---	Independence
Tādī	ତାଡ଼ି	---	Country wine; fermented juice of the palm tree.



Tahasīl	ତହସିଲ	— A unit of land revenue administration.
Tahasildar	ତହସିଲଦାର	— A Revenue Officer holding charge of a Tahasil.
Tarpaṇ	ତର୍ପଣ	— Offering water to the God.
Tēḍā	ଡେଣ୍ଡା	— A water lift; a contrivance to lift water from a lower level to a higher level for irrigation purpose.
Thākūramāhal	ଥାକୁର ମାହାଲ	— An estate given to deity.
Thakurāṇi mahāl	ଥାକୁରାଣୀ ମାହାଲ	— An estate given to a female deity.
Toran	ଡୋରଣ	— Portal, porch, entrance, arch
Tribhaṅgī	ତ୍ରିଭଙ୍ଗୀ	— A standing pose with the torso inclining towards the left and the head inclining towards the right.
Tulasīchaurā	ତୁଳସୀ ଚଉରା	— A raised structure on which Tulasi plant ( <i>Ocimum Sanctum</i> ) is planted and worshipped by the Hindus.
Vīmān	ବିମାନ	— A towered sanctuary in which the image of a deity is enshrined.
Yangya	ଯଜ୍ଞ	— The oblation of clarified butter and other articles of offering made to the deities through fire.
Yogāsana	ଯୋଗାସନ	— Meditative posture.
Zamīndar	ଜମିଦାର	— A landlord.

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(Abbreviations used: (A) for animal, (B) for bird, (H) for hill, (R) for river and (T) for tree and plant).

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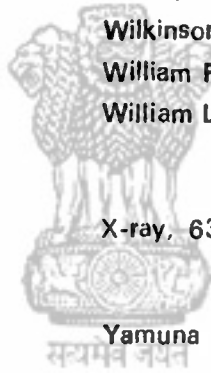
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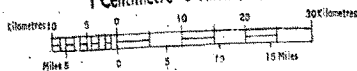
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# BALESHWAR DISTRICT

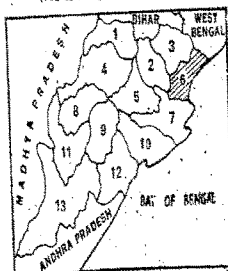
Scale 1:500,000

1 Centimetre=5 Kilometres



1 Inch = 7.991 Miles

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KENDUJHAR

CUTTACK

MAYURBHANJ

NILAGIRI

BAY OF BENGAL

WEST BENGAL

## REFERENCE

Name of Headquarters of District	Baleshwar
" " of subdivision & school	Bhadrak
" " of tahsil	Balipal
Headquarters of district	☉
" of subdivision & tahsil	☐
" of thana	○
" of important villages	●
Boundary: state	— — — — —
" district	— — — — —
" subdivision	— — — — —
" tahsil	— — — — —
" thana	— — — — —
Road: national highway	—————
" state highway	—————
" major district	—————
" others	—————
Railway, broad gauge & narrow gauge	—————
Stream, Canal	~~~~~
Great Triangulation station with height	AS 504
Circuit house, Inspection Bungalow, Rest house	CH IR RH
State bank, Treasury, sub-treasury	B T ST
Post office, Telegraph office & Combined office	PO TO PTO
Places of interest	☼
Forest area, Forest Sanctuary	●

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Monazite	☼
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Clay	◇
Chromite	■
Vanadiferous Magnetite	●